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Colonies

General 22

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OF

British Parliamentary Papers

ANNUAL REPORTS ON THE STATE OF THE COLONIES

1882-83

Colonies General

22

IRISH UNIVERSITY PRESS

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Contents

IUP Page Number

For ease of reference IUP editors have assigned a continuous pagination which appears on the top outer margin of each page.

State of the Colonies
Annual Report for the Year 1881
1882 [c.3388] Vol XLIV 9

State of the Colonies
Annual Reports for the Years 1880–1882
1883 [c.3642] Vol XLV 235

State of the Colonies
Annual Reports for the Year 1882
1883 [c.3794] Vol XLV 503

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PAPERS

RELATING TO

HER MAJESTY'S COLONIAL POSSESSIONS.

REPORTS FOR 1881.

(*In continuation of* [C.–3218.] *of May* 1882.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
August 1882.

LONDON:
PRINTED BY GEORGE E. B. EYRE AND WILLIAM SPOTTISWOODE,
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TABLE OF CONTENTS.

No. in Series.	COLONY.	Page.
1	Western Australia - - - -	3
2	Jamaica - - - - - -	11
3	British Honduras - - - - -	60
4	Turks Islands - - - - -	66
5	British Guiana - - - - -	75
6	Trinidad - - - - - -	92
7	Barbados - - - - - -	106
8	St. Vincent - - - - - -	114
9	Grenada - - - - - -	121
10	Tobago - - - - - -	139
11	St. Lucia - - - - - -	150
12	Antigua - - - - - -	170
13	Nevis - - - - - -	188
14	Bermuda - - - - - -	193
15	Malta - - - - - -	193
16	Ceylon - - - - - -	201
17	Heligoland (extract) - - - -	224
18	„ - - - - - -	226

Mauritius.

Correction.

In third line of paragraph 4, page 194, of No. 12 in [C.—3218.] of May 1882, the figures Rs. 756,088 should be Rs. 247,128.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

No. 1.

Governor Sir W. C. F. ROBINSON, K.C.M.G., to the Right Hon. the EARL OF KIMBERLEY.

Government House, Perth,
June 10, 1882.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the Blue Book of Western Australia for 1881, with a covering report from the Colonial Secretary.

I have, &c.
(Signed) WILLIAM C. F. ROBINSON.

The Right Hon.
The Earl of Kimberley,
&c. &c.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Perth,
June 1, 1882.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward the report on the Blue Book for 1881. The statistics have been carefully collected by the Assistant Colonial Secretary, and I desire to record my appreciation of his able assistance, which I am sure your Excellency will endorse.

With the general advancement of the Colony, it is almost impossible for the Colonial Secretary to give full consideration to details, though I recognise fully that the responsibility rests with him as to the correctness of all the information now furnished.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GIFFORD,
Colonial Secretary.

His Excellency
Sir W. C. F. Robinson, K.C.M.G.

REPORT on BLUE BOOK for 1881.

General Remarks.

It will be my aim throughout this Report to show that the Colony is making advancement without overcolouring the situation.

As it must be remembered that the inhabitants, exclusive of natives, are only by the Census Returns (1881) 29,708, whilst the

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

revenue amounts to 254,313*l.*, the area of the Colony being 1,060,085 square miles when this is taken into consideration it will, I think, be generally recognised that there is a great field for immigration in the full acceptation of the word; to place this, however, in a thoroughly clear light I shall deal with the contents of the Blue Book seriatim, and in the manner that presents itself to me as the most intelligible.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The revenue received in 1881 on all heads was 254,313*l.* 3*s.* 4*d.*, whereas in 1880 it was 180,049*l.* 14*s.* 2*d.*, an increase of 74,263*l.* 9*s.* 2*d.*, accountable for in the following manner: increase in trade notwithstanding an excessively dry season, whilst the favourable report of Mr. A. Forrest and other settlers on the Kimberley District for pastoral purposes caused an unexpected application for leases, capitalists from the other Australian Colonies applying for large tracts, whilst the opening of the first section of the Eastern Railway between Fremantle, Perth, and Guildford materially assisted to swell the receipts.

In addition to the above, one of the subheads of the schedule to the 1881 Loan Bill made provision for the recoupment to General Revenue of 48,160*l.* on account of Eucla Telegraph which was originally paid out of General Revenue, the line constructed being one to connect King George's Sound with the other Australian Colonies, this being a most necessary work not only for the advancement of the Colony but because the above-mentioned port is the first one at which the mail boats touch after leaving Ceylon.

To cover the charges of the New Loan of 150,000*l.*, floated in 1881, a stamp tax was passed, which was brought into force on November 1st of the same year, and realised during the two months 1,205*l.* 11*s.* 10*d.*

On the first January 1881 the debt of the Colony was calculated at 80,950*l.*, whilst at the close on 31st December it amounts to 12,565*l.* 15*s.* 11*d.*, the Government having resolved to relieve the Colony from all embarrassments with the exception of the public debt (*i.e.* Loans), his Excellency the Governor consequently sanctioned increased expenditure over that of the previous year of only 6,951*l.* 5*s.* 2*d.*, which was found sufficient to meet all demands of the service without in the slightest degree being detrimental to the prosperity of the Colony or crippling the administration.

Public Debt.

This amounts to 511,000*l.*, which has been raised chiefly for railways, and has been incurred from the year 1872, the rates of interest vary from 6 per cent. per annum to 4 per cent. with provision of a sinking fund equal to 2 per cent. yearly on the amount of the debentures issued; on the two last loans the following arrangement has been made: that a sum half yearly sufficient to provide the half year's interest on the total nominal value of all

debentures issued, and after five years from date of first issue of debentures a further sum half year of one half per cent. on the nominal value of all debentures issued.

The investments of sinking fund on 1st September amounted to 26,398*l.*, and are chiefly in Cape of Good Hope debentures, Canada, Ceylon, South Australia, New South Wales, and Victoria.

The interest on loans and sinking fund are the first charge on revenue.

Military Expenditure.

2,031*l.* 14*s.* 11*d.*, was expended by maintaining a force of volunteers, under their respective commands, of 630 men of all ranks, 79 horses, and 4 field guns; the men are armed with the Martini, Snider, and Armstrong guns, the only qualifications demanded being that every member must attend 12 general parades of his corps annually.

Imperial expenditure to aid the civil establishment and to afford military protection. The Home Government maintains for the present a force of pensioners from the regular army.

36,278*l.* 9*s.* 7*d.* was expended on the military, and in aid of the civil power.

Public Works.

The first section of the Eastern Railway was opened for traffic soon after the commencement of the year (1881); the line is nearly 20 miles in length, and connects Fremantle (the Port), Perth, and Guildford. The revenue derived during the first nine months' working exceeded the most sanguine expectations notwithstanding that the goods traffic was not thoroughly worked, owing to the trucks, &c. not being completed, and the want of labour.

Tenders were also called for the completion of the second section, and that of Messrs. Wright and Rixly was accepted for 53,043*l.*, the length of this portion of the line being 21 miles.

The extension of the railway is of urgent and vital importance to the Colony; when the line is completed to York there can be little doubt that the undertaking will be a most profitable and useful public work, judging from the success of the first section.

A reformatory for juvenile offenders was established and completed at Rottnest Island, and a small harbour light erected at Cossack.

Legislation.

During 1881 there were two sessions of Council, and 27 laws passed, of which the following are the most noteworthy:—

"An Act to make further provision for the Management and "Working of Railways."

"An Act to authorise the extension of the Eastern Railway."

"An Act to impose certain Stamp Duties."

"An Act for raising the sum of 150,000*l.* for the construction of "certain Public Works, &c."

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

"An Act to consolidate and amend the laws regulating the "Branding of Live Stock."

"An Act for the Prevention and Eradication of Diseases in "Vines."

Whilst three were reserved, namely:—

"An Act for the Re-appropriation of certain Loan moneys."

"An Act to provide for the more effectual keeping and auditing "of Public Accounts"; and

"An Act to prevent the destruction and export of Immature "Sandalwood."

In, addition a Fencing Bill was introduced and passed, but his Excellency the Governor withheld his assent in order that the country might have an opportunity of forming an opinion upon such an important measure.

Population.

By the Census taken on 3rd April, the population exclusive of natives, was 29,708, consisting of 17,062 males, 12,646 females, showing an increase on the Census of 1870 of 4,923 persons, or during the period which transpired between the dates of the Census of 1870 and 1881 the increase has been 19·86 (nineteen decimal eighty-six) per cent., a little more than 1·8 (one decimal eight) per cent. per annum; and if the population is compared with the area of the Colony it gives a result of ·02 (decimal nought two) to the square mile. On December 31st the population was 30,013.

Immigration.

The number of European immigrants introduced under a nomination system amounted to 146, whilst in 1880 78 only were introduced. The system is beginning to work far more satisfactorily, as certain restrictions have been removed, the chief being that persons here are not actually required to name the emigrant in England as heretofore, but the Government permit a friend of the settler in the United Kingdom procuring the class of person required, who furnishes the names and characters to the Government Agent, who, if satisfied after inquiry, provides passages, the Colonists here being required to sign an agreement that the immigrant shall not be any expense to Government from date of arrival.

There is an increasing demand for labour, wages are excessively high, and provided 200 able-bodied men could be induced to come to the Colony, willing to work, they need not fear want of employment from the day landed. Labourers, shepherds, bricklayers, &c. would receive most remunerative wages.

Imports and Exports.

The imports in 1881 were 404,831*l.*, whilst in 1880 they were 353,669*l.*, showing an increase of 50,712*l.* due to a considerable extent to the development of the country and to a steady increase of trade.

The exports in 1881 amounted to 502,769*l.*, against 499,183*l.*, a slight increase over that of the previous year of 3,586*l.*

The chief exports are:—

	£
1. Wool, valued at - -	256,689
2. Timber „ - - -	79,277
3. Mother-of-pearl shells - -	34,912

Horses, gum, lead, and pearls, the estimated value of the latter being 12,000*l.*, but 14,000*l.* is, I believe, nearer the correct value.

Shipping.

The numbers of vessels (sailing and steam) that entered the ports was 185, representing 145,048 tons, whilst the number cleared was 183, representing 139,998 tons, showing an increase of ships entered over the corresponding period last year of 20, representing 21,063 tons; this shows, I think, conclusively that trade is becoming more flourishing.

Education.

Under the provisions of the Elementary Education Act, children who have attained the age of 14 are exempt, whilst admission is available to every child from 4 years old. The system adopted by the Colony is, I think, a good one. Boards are elected in all districts where schools are established, who consult the Central Board (consisting of the Colonial Secretary and four members of the Legislative Council) on all matters. The Central Board have entire control of the sums voted annually, and of the Fee Fund.

In 1870 there were only 2,188 scholars attending Government and assisted schools, whilst in 1881, 4,030 or 43·89 per cent. of the whole Colony attended Government schools, and 20·91 per cent. assisted schools. The increase has therefore been 189·17 per cent. The other children of the country are educated at private schools, or else receive instruction at home.

The result and working of the Act will, I am sure, be gathered from the above statistics. There were 70 Government schools open in the Colony during the year, 19 assisted, and 6 provisional.

The Central Board invariably open new schools whenever there is the slightest chance of obtaining an average attendance of 15.

Agricultural.

The number of acres under cultivation in 1881 fell considerably below that of the previous year; accountable for by the excessive dryness of the season, which prevented farmers from sowing at the proper time; the average yield per acre likewise fell.

The badness of seasons naturally has a most deterrent effect on settlement and drives the small farmer to sandalwood cutting and other pursuits, from which he often does not return to his farm;

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

hence a large quantity of flour and grain is imported, which should in the natural course be grown here; a large quantity of money consequently leaves this country for the purchase of cereals and flour.

The number of stock in the Colony increased; the sheep being taken as an illustration. In 1880 there were 1,231,717, against 1,267,912 in 1881, a most satisfactory state when it is remembered that large numbers perished from drought.

Owing to the dulness of the market the rich copper and lead mines only turned out 1,400 tons. Were there a rise in the price of lead, and smelting works erected, there would undoubtedly be a great field for prosperity opened; the lead is unsurpassed, and is found in veins of unusual breadth.

Traces of gold have been found in various places, and it is hoped that ere long it may be found in payable quantities; one, I believe, can confidently predict that it will be, and that a new future be opened up for Western Australia.

Land continues to be taken up in large quantities. Under the squatting leases there were 58,243,503 acres held, against 44,211,621 in 1880, whilst there were 19,242 acres sold at prices varying from 3*s.* to 10*s.* per acre.

The total number of acres granted and sold throughout the Colony is 2,116,202, leaving about 1,057,394 square miles ungranted.

Criminal Statistics.

The total number of offenders during 1881 was 16,935, as compared with 17,258 in 1880, showing a decrease of 323. The above includes the crimes committed by natives. In future years it might be as well to divide the offences of the Aboriginals and Aliens from the white population, as this will show that crime is not of a severe type amongst the whites as a rule; but what tends to a large extent to swell the numbers of offences will be found to be the breaking of the Masters and Servants Acts. A large number of natives have towards the close of the year been committed for larceny on the property of outlying settlers. The return of convicts in Western Australia shows a reduction of 38 on the previous year.

Gaols and Prisoners.

Under this head slight augmentation occurs, but chiefly the prisoners have been committed for minor offences. Confin ent on the separate system is carried out to a certain extent, and could be wholly adopted, provided the Imperial establishment was handed over to the Colonial Government, and a classification system could at once be established.

The gaols are clean, and the prisoners healthy. The prisoners are employed on road-making, dredging, and other reproductive works; the offences against prison discipline were comparatively small.

Hospitals.

The health of the inhabitants of Western Australia continues most favourable. The best criterion is a perusal of the return below, as it must be borne in mind that a large number of patients treated were old persons who had been sent out to the Colony who had undermined their constitutions from the life previously led in their younger days.

Diseases Treated.	Number of Cases.	Number of Deaths.
Zymotic disease - - -	23	—
Constitutional disease - -	11	3
Local disease - - -	128	14
Total - - -	162	17

Lunatic Asylum.

The number of Colonial lunatics admitted during the year was 11 males and 9 females, of whom 4 and 5 of the respective sexes were discharged cured, whilst 3 males and 2 females died.

No restraint during the year was resorted to. The space and ventilation of the asylum is ample and good, the grounds of 4 acres in extent, and the patients are allowed daily exercise, but not beyond the asylum.

Charitable and Literary Institutions.

There are nine hospitals, one lunatic asylum, two poor houses, one reformatory (boys), two native institutions, supported entirely by public funds, and two orphanages (one Protestant and one Catholic) supported by public and private funds; in addition, working men's associations and institutes, to which the Government subscribe, are in existence throughout the Colony, and from reports received they are in a flourishing condition and productive of much good.

Concluding Remarks.

In closing my Report I must draw attention to the growing importance of Western Australia.

The country is making steady strides, notwithstanding the bad seasons, and if the Colony can thrive under these circumstances there is no need to fear a collapse from the present prosperous state the country is entering on.

There may of course be a slight check from over trading, but this will be but temporary; if the people continue contented with fair profits the steady progress of the country will be ensured,

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

whilst it must be generally admitted that as regards minerals little as yet has been attempted to develop the resources of the soil, though there are many indications that valuable mines will one day be worked.

That our stability is believed in, is patent by the fact that large tracts of land are daily being taken up, not alone by the colonists here, but by settlers of New South Wales and Victoria, and the "small and remote Colony," as the Premier of New South Wales was pleased once to call this country, will before many years be able to take her place alongside her sisters in the way of wealth and prosperity; the demand by strangers for our land is sufficient proof of their belief in the country. Steam communication on our coasts materially assists the development of the country, and the settlement of the North District will be greatly aided by the Coastal Service, arrangements having been made for at least eight visits per annum, whilst the opening up of the country by railways, which is rapidly being proceeded with, will again unfold our reserves and induce settlement.

The timber trade is greatly increasing, and a large and increasing demand for our wood in the other colonies gives employment to numerous hands.

Labour is much required. A man ready and willing to work need have no fear of not being employed, the wages ruling from 7*s.* per diem to 10*s.* There are many and good openings for men who live a precarious life in England, if their attention was diverted to Western Australia from the great fields of America and Canada and they were to emigrate here in limited numbers I am convinced they would never regret the step; but I venture to say they would live in a style of contentment never dreamt of by them before.

One fact alone will show that the prosperity of the Colony is on the ascending scale, and that is the price of town allotments. Before the last two years they realised comparatively speaking little, now, whenever a block of land is offered for sale, there is most spirited bidding, and the plot is knocked down at treble the estimated value of three years back, whilst fancy prices are often given for eligible sites. In bringing my Report to a close, I trust that this outline on the general condition of Western Australia has been dealt with intelligibly, and that it will be of assistance to persons desiring to gather information about this Colony.

(Signed) GIFFORD.
Colonial Secretary.

May 29, 1882.

JAMAICA.

No. 2.

Governor Sir A. MUSGRAVE, K.C.M.G., to the Right Hon. the EARL OF KIMBERLEY.

King's House, Jamaica,
September 10, 1882.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship my report on the annual Blue Book for the year ended 30th September 1881.

2. The Blue Book itself was forwarded to your Lordship's Department by the Mail of the 10th of July last.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. MUSGRAVE.

The Right Hon.
The Earl of Kimberley,
&c. &c.

BLUE BOOK REPORT, 1880–81.

Legislation.

In the Session of the Legislative Council, in the latter part of the year 1880 and in the earlier part of 1881, 32 Laws were passed, of which the following were the more important:—

Law 13 of 1880.—"A Law to supplement the provisions of "Law 49 of 1869, authorising the issue of a nickel coinage in this "Island."

The object of this Law is to legalize the circulation of nickel farthings, the want of which had repeatedly been experienced. An objectionable description of tokens of a less denomination than the halfpenny was found to be in circulation which indicated the necessity for smaller coins.

Law 15 of 1880.—"The Census Law of 1880."

The object of this Law is to provide for the taking of the decennial census in this Island and its dependencies on the same day as in the other parts of the empire. The whole operation is put for the first time under the superintendence of the Registrar-General of Births, Marriages, and Deaths, whose office had been constituted since the previous enumeration of the population in 1871.

Law 16 of 1880.—"A Law to amend Law 20 of 1870, entitled "a Law to establish a Government Savings Bank."

JAMAICA.

This Law authorises the Governor to reduce the rate of interest on deposits in the Government Savings Bank from 4 to a rate not exceeding 3 per cent. per annum; and further relieves the Government of paying interest at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum on all deposits in the bank not invested in securities. The rate of interest was accordingly reduced as from the 1st of April 1881 to three per centum, and the uninvested deposits were about the commencement of the year gradually transferred to England for investments there, leaving in the Colonial Treasury only a small working balance not invested. The general revenue was thus relieved of a contribution to the bank which had reached over 5,000*l.*

Law 17 of 1880.—"A Law to amend the Railway Extension "Loan Law 8 of 1880."

The object of this Law is to give the Governor power to borrow 400,000*l.* (instead of the sum of 350,000*l.*, authorised to be raised under Law 8 of 1880), this having become necessary in consequence of the revised estimates of the consulting engineers, who calculated that the completion of the works will cost 372,000*l.*, and of the necessity for the construction of a quay wall, in connexion with the railway, for facilitating the wharfage and shipping and discharge of produce conveyed, or to be conveyed, on the railway. The opportunity was taken to make it clear that the "undertaking" in all the railway Laws was meant to apply to the existing line of railway acquired under Law 12 of 1879. Previous legislation did not specifically confer these powers with regard to this part of what will hereafter be the United Public Railway.

Law, 19 of 1880. "A Law to authorise the raising of a loan for "the redemption of certain Island Debentures."

The object of this Law is to enable the Governor to virtually consolidate in one loan the whole or part of different loans which had been raised under different Acts and Laws for several purposes, and a large portion of which were held as investments by the Savings Bank, and to convert those investments into securities of the Imperial Government and of other Colonies which would not be influenced by local causes. The effect of this conversion will be to relieve the debt charges of one per centum interest on an amount of 390,456*l.*, which relief the general revenue will enjoy to the extent of 290,476*l.*, and the several Commissions, such as the Waterworks, Kingston, the Rio Cobre Irrigation, &c., to the extent of 99,980*l.*

Law 2 of 1881.—"The Bastardy Law 1881."

This Law was introduced in consequence of the recommendation of the Commissioners appointed in 1877 to inquire into the condition of the juvenile population of Jamaica. It is framed on the lines of the Imperial Statutes 35 & 36 Vict. c. 65., and 36 & 37 Vict. c. 9. The primary jurisdiction in bastardy cases is given to the District Court; and an appeal is given to the

Supreme Court, the latter court having power by section 3 to make rules to regulate the hearing of appeals.

Law 3 of 1881.—"The Apprenticeship Law 1881."

This Law also had the same origin. It begins by repealing the present Apprenticeship Act, 4 Vict. c. 30., and 5 Vict. c. 35., and then enacts that no indenture of apprenticeship is to be binding on any minor unless entered into before a justice of the peace, or clerk of petty sessions, who is to satisfy himself that certain requirements have been complied with before he countersigns the indenture. Power is given to the legal guardian, who has not been a party to the indenture, to come forward within a limited period to claim his right over his ward. Provision is also made in limiting to 21 years of age the time for which an indenture is binding, that the age stated in the indenture shall be conclusive, which provision was inserted because it was found that, as soon as a boy's labour became valuable, his parent or guardian, or he himself, would suddenly discover that a mistake had been made as to his age. Provisions were inserted with the view of enabling the Public Works Department to take under indenture young men in the Government workshops, and the Public Hospital to train up dispensers, and were extended to corporations and companies.

Law 4 of 1881.—"A Law further to amend the Law of evidence."

This Law was rendered necessary by the fact that a conviction of perjury or subornation of perjury has hitherto incapacitated a convict from ever after giving evidence. Inconvenience to the ends of justice had often resulted from the disqualification which had long since been removed in the mother country, and which had been known recently to preclude a discharged convict from giving evidence in a prosecution on his own behalf, and there seemed no reason why the credibility of such a witness should not be left to be determined by a jury.

Law 6 of 1881.—"A Law to permit the remuneration of chairmen of Parochial Boards."

It had been usual for the Governor to appoint the Custos of the parish to be chairman of the Municipal Board and chairman of the Parochial Road Commissioners; but the Governor found it in two vacancies which actually occurred difficult to obtain the services of gentlemen willing to give them gratuitously in offices involving a good deal of work. If performed with a sufficient control and supervision, the parochial administration requires a considerable portion of the time of men already fully engaged in their own respective vocations in a Colony where the gentleman of means and leisure most frequently retires to Europe as soon as he is able to do so. This measure was accordingly introduced in order to give the Governor power to offer a salary in cases where he is practically unable to find gentlemen who would be acceptable to the parish to do the work for nothing. The words "not being Custos of such parish," were inserted out of deference to

JAMAICA.

the feeling of the unofficial members of the Council, who were afraid that the Custos, by accepting a salary, would lose in point of dignity. Under this Law, if the Governor finds it impracticable to get a Custos who will accept the chairmanship of the Boards gratuitously, he may appoint a paid officer or officers to undertake, with the aid of the Boards, the administration of poor relief and the management of the parochial roads among other minor local concerns. On reflection, it will be certain to appear that the application of a person's whole time to the superintendence of the details of this branch of public business must have a beneficial result to the parish. It was contemplated, when practicable, to leave the more honorary and less enacting dignity of Custos in other hands, and to invest the chairman, with some additional remunerations, with the powers of a stipendiary justice, in order that he should be able to secure in his own person when necessary the requisite regularity and certainty in sittings of the courts of Petty Sessions.

Law 7 of 1881.—"The Saint Thomas and Portland Bridges Loan Law 1881."

The object of this Law is to give the Governor power to borrow a sum not exceeding 100,000*l.*, at a rate not exceeding 4½ per cent., to be expended, subject to the approval of the Secretary of State, in erecting certain bridges.

It is framed on the lines of other recent loan Laws with a view to a general consolidation hereafter of all the loans of the Island. The want of bridges has long been felt in these parishes, where the rivers in the rainy seasons are frequently, and sometimes for long periods, impassable. Considerable loss of life and of goods often occurs in attempts to ford them, while at all times, and under the most favourable circumstances, conveyance and transport are difficult and inconvenient, and the disadvantages to foot traffic can be readily understood. It had been urged on the Government that such means of communication would be especially advantageous and important to this part of the Colony. No practical step has yet been taken under the Law.

Law 9 of 1881.—"The Escheat Law 1881."

This Law was passed to simplify the procedure in cases of escheat. The Law leaves untouched, and recognises as still subsisting, the practice under which the Crown on deciding to take proceedings in escheat determines to do so, either for its own benefit, or for the benefit of some person to whom it grants letters of preference. The object has been to assimilate proceedings in escheat as far as possible to proceedings in an action of ejectment, with this proviso, that if a verdict is given for the Crown, such verdict is liable to be upset at any time within 12 months, at the suit of any one who feels aggrieved by it; and it is only after the lapse of 12 months that the Crown can move for final judgment, the effect of which is to give an indefeasible title. The former mode of proceeding by escheat, according to the common law, was of a cumbersome and expensive character, and the object of the present

Law is to have justice done at a more expeditious and less expensive rate.

Law 10 of 1881.—"The sale of Drugs and Poisons Law 1881."

This Law was introduced in consequence of repeated representations by the superintending medical officer of the Island of the great injury sustained by the community from the absence of any system of registration of persons engaged in the sale of drugs. This Law provides for a system of licensing for persons desirous of selling drugs, and enacts that no unlicensed person shall sell drugs or poisons, except such as are mentioned in the Law. Provision is also made to protect, as far as possible, the public against adulterated and unwholesome drugs, and also that on a sale of poisons, precautions similar to those enforced by the English law on this subject shall be observed.

Law 12 of 1881.—"The Limitations of Actions (Land) Law 1881."

This Law has been urgently needed for some time past in Jamaica, the judges having frequently expressed the greatest dissatisfaction at having to enforce the doctrine of adverse possession, and to recognize absence beyond seas as a ground of disability. The new Law deals principally with three points; first, the nature of the possession which is to give the title; secondly, the length of time it is to be enjoyed; and, thirdly, the period at which the statute of limitation should begin to run. The measure is an adaptation of the Imperial Acts 3 & 4 Will. 4., 1 Vict. c. 28., and parts of 37 & 38 Vict. c. 57., and displaces on our statute book legislation of so old a date as that of the reign of James I.

Law 13 of 1881.—"The Registration Law 1881."

Since the passing of Law 19 of 1877 the Registrar-General has repeatedly complained that the system of registration therein provided was so unsuited to the requirements and condition of the country in some respects of detail that they were unavoidably left to a great extent a dead letter. The gist of the arrangements made by the Law of 1877 is that the local registrars should keep the registers of their respective districts, and that they should, once a quarter, make copies of all entries made during the preceding quarter and submit them to the superintendent registrar for examination. The superintendent registrar is then required to send the certified copies which he has so examined on to the Registrar-General, who is to keep the same in his office and to make indexes thereof. It was found impracticable to carry out a system which required either that the superintendent registrars, who were usually ministers of religion, accepting office almost gratuitously, and as a matter of benevolence, should go to the registers, or that the district registrars should take the bulky registers to the superintendents, with the difficulty and risk of their transport. Besides, the essence of the system established in 1877 was that there should be a permanent record besides the

JAMAICA.

original register kept in every district, the record at Kingston being made up merely of the certified copies. But it has since been considered that so long as the permanent record is kept at the office of the Registrar-General in Kingston, it was unnecessary to attempt to keep such record at every local centre.

The present Law abolishes the superintendent registrars altogether, and provides that the general register shall be kept at the office of the Registrar-General. The district registrars are to enter in duplicate on leaf and counterfoil all the particulars required to be registered in what, for the sake of distinction, is called the Registration Form Book, and then within the first three days of every month he is to send to the Registrar-General one of such duplicate entries, and from these the Registrar-General is to cause the general register to be compiled.

The introduction of this new system necessitated so many small changes in most of the sections in the Law of 1879 that it was thought necessary to repeal that Law altogether and re-enact it in the amended form.

Law 14 of 1881.—"The Agricultural Produce Buyers Law 1881."

This Law was introduced in consequence of the numerous complaints made as to the facilities afforded to persons guilty of petty thefts of agricultural produce, by the numerous purchasers who go round the country, almost from door to door, for the purpose of buying up agricultural produce in any quantity, however small, under any circumstances, and without asking any questions. It was accordingly deemed expedient to establish a system of licensing under which no person is to be allowed, unless licensed, to buy certain articles of agricultural produce except at his own house, or at a shop kept open for the sale of such articles. A license can only be obtained of a Justice of the Peace on evidence of respectability and honesty of the applicant.

Law 15 of 1881.—"A Law further to regulate the Relief of the Poor."

This was another of the group of Laws which were introduced in consequence of the recommendations of the Commissioners to inquire into the condition of the juvenile population, and at the direction of the Secretary of State. It gives the Governor power to make regulations for the administration of the funds for the relief of the poor.

Law 16 of 1881.—"The Maintenance Law 1881."

This Law was introduced under the same circumstances as the preceding one, and defines the limits within which parents, and children are reciprocally bound to maintain each other. It gives the person entitled to be maintained power to proceed directly to enfore his right, and enables the Municipal Board, where it has given poor relief, to initiate the proceedings.

Law 17 of 1881.—"The Shipwrecked Colonial Seamen Law 1875, Extension Law 1881."

This Law extended to seamen employed in colonial ships, and distressed or shipwrecked in or on the coasts of the United Kingdom, the relief which could be afforded to them under Law 21 of 1875 if found in such unfortunate circumstances in foreign parts. An intermediate Law, 2 of 1880, which is now repealed, had restricted the relief to the seamen of such ships who belonged to the Island. This measure provides for the relief being afforded through a recognised charitable society of standing, and for the recovery by the Island treasurer in certain cases of the cost of the relief afforded.

Law 18 of 1881.—"The Public Water Supply Law 1873, Amendment Law 1881."

This Law amends the Law of 1873, in so far as it gives the Municipal Boards power to impose compulsory water rates throughout the district supplied with water by any special works. The Boards have also the power to fix the rate on each house and on each head of horse-kind or cattle within the district, which is to be defined in each case under due precautions. Power is given to the Governor at the time of making any advance for the establishment of waterworks to determine when the first repayment should be made in order that he might be able to fix such a time as would enable the Municipal Board to earn some water rates wherewith to make the repayment. The water rate begins to be payable after a "district" has been defined in the Gazette, and thus the Governor has it in his power to take care that the water rates do not begin to be payable until the Board is in a position to supply water. The intention of the present Law is that those people in the parish who get the benefit of the water should pay the cost of the waterworks, the liability for the repayment of which, by the Law of 1873, was thrown upon the poor rate of the parish at large; at the same time as the money is lent to the parish, though for the benefit of only a district of it, power is reserved to come ultimately upon the whole parish, if necessary, for payment, though the district is made primarily liable. Though the Island is well watered in many districts, in others the lower classes suffer severely in labour to obtain water from great distances, and in privation in some parts during protracted droughts. In one such last-mentioned locality a water supply had been provided by the sinking of an artesian well by means of an advance from the Treasury. The work proved to be much more expensive than had been anticipated, and, notwithstanding all the representations which had previously been made as to the want of water, it was found impracticable to make any arrangements by the sale of water for meeting the cost of working the well and the repayment of the advance with interest.

Law 20 of 1881.—"The Kingston Assessment and Street Survey Law 1881."

This Law was introduced after the disallowance of that of 1879, on the ground of objection to the proposed incidence of the taxation to meet the cost of reconstructing the streets of the city.

JAMAICA.

The intention of this preliminary amending measure is to enable the Parochial Road Commissioners to make complete plans and estimates of the repairs necessary to be done, and to determine what rate, on a fair and proper re-assessment of house property, would be required to be levied in order to raise the necessary amount. The re-assessment has accordingly been made, and a plan of reconstruction has been nearly determined on, but the supplementary measure for fixing and enforcing the requisite rate to meet the cost has not yet been proposed or adopted. The reconstruction still remains a great necessity in a sanitary as well as an economic point of view.

Law 21 of 1881.—"The Agricultural Loans Law 1881."

A Bill on this subject passed the late House of Assembly twice, but did not secure support in the Council. Since then the subject has from time to time received attention, though no step had actually been taken in the matter. The object of the Law is to enable a cultivator to pledge his crops for repayment of advances made with a view to producing such crops. The requisites are clearly set forth in the contract, which has to be recorded like an ordinary bill of sale. In case the contract is duly made and recorded the lender gets a lien on the crop, which is valid against an assignee in bankruptcy, or an execution creditor, or any subsequent purchaser or incumbrancer of the land. It makes the procedure on writs specially endorsed applicable to cases where the lender wishes to enforce a contract made under this Law. The measure on this occasion originated with a leading minister of religion, who urged in the establishment of an agricultural loan association, which might be worked under this Law, a means of materially aiding the peasantry with the money advances necessary to a development by them of the minor agricultural resources of the Island.

Law 22 of 1881.—"A Law to Amend the Customs Consolidation Law 18 of 1877."

It had been found so difficult in practice to carry out strictly section 100 of Law 18 of 1877, which prohibits goods being shipped except on proper days and only at a port of entry or clearance, in consequence of estates shipping their produce from the numerous small contiguous bays which are not ports of entry, that it became usual for officers of customs to require a bond for payment of the duty on clearance instead of requiring due entry and clearance of the goods prior to shipment.

This Law was accordingly introduced to make legal a practice which had originated in necessity, and to remedy an inconvenience which had been represented by a leading shipper.

Law 24 of 1881.—"The Harbours Consolidation Law Amendment Law 1881."

It had been found with regard to sunken or abandoned vessels that, if the harbour master required the owner of any such vessel to remove it within 14 days, the owner employed the 14 days in stripping the vessel of everything of any value and

then left the bare hulk to be removed by the harbour master at the public expense, often a comparatively costly undertaking. Accordingly the present Law empowers the harbour master to at once seize any such vessel before it has become valueless, and then take security from the owner for its removal, or, in default thereof, to remove the ship himself and to sell it, paying the cost of removal out of the proceeds. The harbour master may also recover against the owners the expense of removing any wreck or floating timber. The definition of the term "coasting vessel" under the harbour Laws is assimilated to that under the Customs Consolidation Law.

Law 25 of 1881.—The Sand Cay Lighthouse (Turks Islands) Loan Law 1881."

The object of this Law is to enable the Governor to advance 5,000*l.* to the settlement of Turks Islands, which has been annexed to and formed a part of this Colony since 1874, for the purpose of building a lighthouse at the southern entrance of the passage to Grand Turk with the view of securing steam communication direct between the Settlement and the seat of Government in Jamaica. The project has not yet been pushed further on account of the apparent necessity for lights on two different points and of the consequent cost exceeding what was originally contemplated.

Finance.

On account of general revenue and expenditure in 1880–81, exclusive of appropriated revenue and expenditure, but inclusive of the balance from the year before, the receipts were 461,630*l.*, and the payments, including 9,387*l.* for redemption of debt and 18,210*l.* invested in sinking funds for the ultimate redemption of debt, amounted to 505,532*l.*, thus showing a deficit of 43,896*l.* on the years transactions. While the expenditure was only 7,655*l.* in excess of the estimates, the revenue was short of the same by 22,333*l.*, and the surplus from the previous year on the closing of the accounts proved to be 30,034*l.* less than had been anticipated when the estimates were passed in Council. This disappointment was largely attributable to a closer accounting up to date under the new system of accounts.

The appropriated revenues, which are devoted to parochial roads, pauper relief, sanitary services, and other similar local services, and are administered by the several parochial boards, produced in 1880–81 84,969*l.*, which is 5,585*l.* more than the receipts of last year. The expenditure on the other hand amounted to 90,586*l.*, the excess of expenditure over revenue being met from the balances of previous years which were at credit of the respective funds, and being principally on account of poor relief.

The revenue appropriated to immigration services amounted to 18,774*l.*, while the expenditure was 31,545*l.*; the difference being met from the balance in hand.

JAMAICA.

The usual comparative table of the whole of the Treasury receipts in the financial year under report with those of the previous year is given below :—

	1880–81.	1879–80.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
General Revenue.				
Import duties	253,932	258,514	—	4,582
Export duties	6,061	6,283	—	222
Light dues	1,907	2,425	—	518
Harbour master's fees	438	423	15	—
Rum duties	81,540	92,770	—	11,230
Licenses	16,981	17,861	—	880
Stamps	13,313	13,873	—	560
Postal revenues	14,426	14,360	66	—
Telegraph revenues	2,594	1,010	1,584	—
Court fees	7,650	7,771	—	121
Fines and forfeitures	2,369	2,590	—	221
Interest on securities for sinking funds	5,313	4,708	60	—
Interest other than as above	1,488	3,517	—	2,029
Jamaica railway revenue	22,137	27,628	—	5,491
Reimbursements for expenditure	18,068	21,702	—	3,634
Miscellaneous	11,250	16,471	—	5,221
			2,270	34,709
	459,467	491,906	—	32,439
Revenue specially appropriated.				
Parochial road revenues	38,173	36,493	1,680	—
Kingston street tax	1,554	1,240	314	—
Parochial municipal revenues	6,922	6,567	355	—
Poor rates	28,688	26,934	1,734	—
Sanitary rates	3,737	2,699	1,038	—
Fire rates	1,512	1,086	426	—
Miscellaneous	1,030	1,751	—	721
Gas rates	3,373	2,614	759	—
			6,306	721
	84,969	79,384	5,585	—

	1880-81.	1879-80.	Increase.	Decrease.
Immigration Revenues.	£	£	£	£
Export duties - - -	9,183	13,404	—	4,221
Capitation tax - - -	1,585	3,442	—	1,857
Interest (general) - -	1,297	1,411	—	114
Proceeds of planters' notes -	6,440	9,279	—	2,839
Miscellaneous - - -	264	166	98	—
Immigration reimbursements -	5	—	5	—
	—	—	103	9,031
	18,774	27,702	—	8,928
Total general revenue -	459,467	491,906	—	32,439
Total revenue specially appropriated - - -	84,969	79,384	5,585	—
Total immigration revenues -	18,774	27,702	—	8,928
	—	—	5,585	41,367
	563,210	598,999	—	35,782
Receipts on Debt Account.				
Law 12 of 1879 - - -	25,000	15,473	9,527	—
Law 8 of 1880 - - -	200,000	—	200,000	—
Law 1 of 1879 - - -	547	14,425	—	13,878
	—	—	—	—
	788,757	628,897	209,527	49,660

The large decreases in general revenues under import duties, rum duties, railway revenue, and reimbursements are due to the great depression of trade caused by the unusually dry weather which prevailed throughout the year, and from which the Colony has not yet wholly recovered, the decrease under rum duties being exceptionally marked. The decrease under export duties on coffee and dyewoods is due to the crops of the former having been affected by the cyclone and the preceding and subsequent protracted drought, and to a diminution of demand for the latter produce. The light dues have been affected by steamers, which pay no such dues, having in great measure taken the place of sailing vessels; the other decreases may be attributed to ordinary fluctuation, except that under miscellaneous, which is due to the receipts of 1879-80 having been unduly swollen by the transfer in the previous year of a considerable amount at credit of recovered lands. The increase in telegraph receipts is caused by the extension of the lines and a more general use of the system; that under interest on sinking funds to the amount of the investments having been increased.

JAMAICA.

The appropriated revenues show an increase under every item except miscellaneous. This general increase is attributed partly to ordinary fluctuation and in some cases to a more careful collection of arrears.

The immigration revenues show a considerable decrease. The export duties on sugar and rum have also been diminished by the effect of drought upon the crops, and the capitation tax will fall proportionately with the number of coolies introduced before 1st October 1877, whose indentures are gradually expiring and on whom alone this tax is paid. The recent decrease in the number of coolies imported has reduced the amount received as the proceeds of planters' notes.

The following is a similar comparative statement of the Treasury disbursements compared with the year immediately preceding:—

	1880–81.	1879–80.	Increase.	Decrease.
General Expenditure.	£	£	£	£
Interest on debt	45,416	49,008	—	3,592
Pensions	13,373	12,660	713	—
Administrative departments	31,038	32,238	—	1,200
Revenue departments	31,481	31,470	11	—
Postal service	16,942	16,664	278	—
Telegraph service	3,352	1,863	1,489	—
Judicial	38,054	37,461	593	—
Ecclesiastical	8,122	9,827	—	1,705
Medical	48,560	49,297	—	737
Constabulary	51,178	53,353	—	2,175
Penitentiary and prisons	26,736	25,768	968	—
Reformatories	4,392	4,249	143	—
Education	25,716	25,600	116	—
Harbour master	979	1,018	—	39
Colonial allowances to troops	3,931	4,111	—	180
Pilotage and harbour boards	223	97	126	—
Miscellaneous	7,772	8,250	—	478
Census, 1881	6,033	—	6,033	—
Steam communication round the Island	1,154	—	1,154	—
Steam communication with America	4,029	3,926	103	—
Stationery for public departments	—	9	—	9
Public plantations and gardens	5,456	5,567	—	111
Public library and museum	879	746	133	—
Public works	73,210	67,438	5,772	—
Lighthouses	1,253	1,290	—	37
Parochial expenditure	2,058	2,213	—	155
Subsidy to West India and Panama Telegraph Company	2,000	2,000	—	—
Maintenance of Jamaica Railway	12,491	17,393	—	4,902
Civil Service Commission	310	—	310	—
Registrar-General's Department	2,995	3,388	—	393
Island Record Office	886	963	—	77
Government Printing Department	7,916	7,739	177	—
	—	—	18,119	15,790
	477,935	475,606	2,329	—

	1880–81.	1879–80.	Increase.	Decrease.
Expenditure from appropriated Revenues.	£	£	£	£
Parochial roads	41,457	40,330	1,127	—
Kingston streets	279	306	—	27
Parochial municipal objects	5,505	7,312	—	1,807
Relief of the poor	36,141	28,646	7,495	—
Sanitary appropriation	2,753	2,947	—	194
Fire appropriation	1,405	1,494	—	89
Gas appropriation, Kingston	3,046	2,142	904	—
	—	—	9,526	2,117
	90,586	83,177	7,409	—
Total expenditure from appropriated revenues	90,586	83,177	7,409	—
Total immigration expenditure	31,545	30,578	967	—
Total general expenditure	477,935	475,606	2,329	—
Expenditure out of Loans raised for the purpose.				
Jamaica railway	76,499	90,325	—	13,826
Jamaica Telegraphs	2,869	7,893	—	5,024
			10,705	18,850
	679,434	687,579	—	8,145
Disbursements other than Expenditure.				
Sinking funds	18,210	18,019	191	—
Redemption of debt	9,387	10,487	—	1,100
Excess of withdrawals over deposits	11,832	50,430	—	38,598
Grand total disbursements	718,863	766,5 15	191	47,843

The total general expenditure, it will be noticed, shows a slight decrease on that of the preceding year. The principal items causing this are interest on debt (3,592*l.*), the amount paid on account of which was reduced in consequence of the transfer to England for investment of savings bank deposits, and of a smaller amount being thus required as the payment from the general revenue of interest on the uninvested deposits of the bank; administrative departments (1,200*l.*), due to ordinary fluctuation; ecclesiastical (1,705*l*), due to the operation of disestablishment, vacancies not now being filled up; constabulary (2,175*l.*), the expenditure having been unusually large in the previous year owing to the purchase of rifles and accoutrements; maintenance of Jamaica Railway (4,902*l.*), for which credit may be claimed for improved management. On the other hand there were increases under telegraphs, due to the extension of the service; for the new services of census and steam communication round the Island; and under public works for the repair of cyclone damages, which were entirely defrayed out of the current revenues or this and the previous year.

JAMAICA.

Under expenditure from appropriated revenues there appear considerable increases under parochial roads and under relief of the poor.

Pensions.

During the year 14 pensions, amounting in all to 1,777*l.* 14*s.* 2*d.*, were granted on the principles of the Imperial Superannuation Acts and Treasury Rules, in consequence of the retirement from office on the unavoidable grounds of either old age or ill-health permanently incapacitating the holder from the performance of his duties; the list has been on the other hand relieved by the death of six pensioners to the extent of 746*l.* 14*s.*

Debt.

A further and final instalment of 25,000*l.*, on account of the railway purchase and reconstruction loan under Law 12 of 1879, was raised during this year, as well as 200,000*l.* of the loan on account of the extensions to Porus and Ewarton. A further sum of 586*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.*, required to cover the final expenditure in connexion with the completion of the circuit of inland telegraphs was also borrowed from the Government Savings Bank, a debenture under the Law 1 of 1879 being assigned as security.

The inland telegraphic communication has thus been secured for 15,000*l.*

No further amounts were raised during the year on account of any special local services.

During the year 9,887*l.* of debt were paid off, of which 500*l.* for Kingston Streets Reconstruction of 1864 were from special revenues appropriated to the purpose under 28 Vict. c. 24., and 9,387*l.* for immigration were from general revenue. The net amount of debt was further reduced by accretions to sinking funds to the amount of 18,619*l.*

The public debt directly secured on the general revenue, which was 757,316*l.* at the end of 1866, stood as follows on the 30th September in each of the last 10 years after making allowance in each year for the sinking funds actually invested for the eventual redemption of debt.

	£	*s.*	*d.*		£	*s.*	*d.*
1872 -	571,542	1	3	1877 -	485,107	11	5
1873 -	554,492	18	11	1878 -	641,644	10	9
1874 -	539,108	8	2	1879 -	718,608	11	11
1875 -	548,024	3	7	1880 -	721,481	6	8
1876 -	501,413	8	5	1881 -	920,924	19	4

The large increases in 1878 and 1879 were on account of the transfer of the immigration debt and of the acquisition of the railway respectively, while the increase in the year now under review is due to the large instalment raised on account of railway extension.

In addition to the debt shown in the above statement there are the following loans raised for special objects, and although guaranteed by the general revenue, secured primarily on the special revenues of the several undertakings.

	£
Rio Cobre canal - - - -	126,500
Kingston and Liguanea waterworks - -	98,200
Kingston markets - - - -	20,000
Kingston gasworks - - - -	30,000
Kingston slaughter-house - - -	10,000

In none of these cases has it yet been found practicable to make from the special revenues any provision for the repayment of capital, while in regard to Rio Cobre Irrigation Canal loan the general revenue was called upon under its guarantee to pay 8,717*l.* during the year as the deficiency of receipts against interest on loan and working expenses.

The arrangements under Law 19 of 1880 have not come into operation during the year under review, but they will, when completed, relieve the general and appropriated revenues of annual provision probably to the extent of over 1,400*l.*

Legislative Council.

This Council met on the 2nd of November 1880, and was prorogued on the 8th of March 1881, having during that period passed 32 Laws and held 26 sittings.

The Council was increased in number to 18 by the addition of one official and one unofficial member. Dr. Mosse, C.B., the Superintending Medical Officer, was appointed to one seat and Mr. William Kerr to the other.

The body lost by death during the year two unofficial members in Messrs. Henry Westmorland and H. F. Colthirst.

The vacancy caused by the death of the former was filled by the appointment of Mr. George Henderson; no appointment has yet been made to the last vacant seat.

Civil Establishment.

The following changes took place during the year among the district court judges:—

Mr. E. T. Smith, a stipendiary magistrate in British Guiana, was appointed by the Secretary of State to a district court judgeship in this Island in a vacancy created by the transfer of Mr. F. C. Williams to be a puisne judge in Natal, and was appointed to the eastern district, Mr. Ernst was transferred to the northern district court in the place of Mr. Williams.

Captain Portlock Dadson, who assumed office as Superintendent of the Government Reformatory in December 1877 resigned the, appointment and was succeeded by Mr. Thomas Mair of the Kibble Reformatory in Scotland.

JAMAICA.

Captain O'Brien, R.E., assumed in October the duties of Deputy Director of Roads in place of Major Ferguson, who had resigned.

Mr. Payne Gallwey was transferred to employment in the Railway Extension Works, and was succeeded as engineer of the eastern district by Mr. Dodd, who had been for some years an assistant to the Government Surveyor. Mr. J. G. Doorly relieved Mr. Tilley as engineer of the northern district.

Mr. Capper was appointed Inspector of Schools in the room of Mr. John Savage, who retired on a pension after a long and important service.

No other vacancy in the higher offices occurred during the year.

Main Roads and Public Works.

From the report of the Director of Roads it appears that the main roads and bridges were in generally very good order at the close of the year, and that no unusual damage was done during the year. The cost of their maintenance was 23,998*l.*, while the expenditure for the new works on them was 3,030*l.* 2*s.* 9*d.*

The expenditure on the roads of the Kingston district was largely increased to the extent of 2,300*l.* in excess of the ordinary maintenance charge in consequence of the employment during the early part of the year of over 300 hands on "relief work," rendered necesssary to the people in consequence of the long continued drought. Including this extra charge, however, the cost of maintenance of roads and bridges per mile was 32*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.*, a reduction of 7*l.* 7*s.* on the rate of the previous year, which was, however, an extreme one, in consequence of the floods of October 1879 and the cyclone of August 1880.

Among the new works carried out by the department during the year may be mentioned the completion of the important road across the middle of the Island from Chapeltown to Cave Valley referred to in the report of 1880, with the exception of the girder bridge at Greenock, which has not yet arrived from England. This direct communication between the parishes of Clarendon and St. Ann's passes through fertile and thickly populated districts, and has the prospective advantage of becoming a feeder of one of the projected extensions of railway which will run past four paths in the lowlands of Clarendon and on the line of main road of which this new communication is a continuation. Three new iron girder bridges have been erected, one over the Horse Savanna River in St. Thomas to replace the one destroyed by the flood in June 1880, and the others across the Smithfield River in Westmoreland and the Hope River on the road to the military cantonment at Newcastle respectively.

Other improvements of a permanent character, such as the widening of roads in hilly places, the building of culverts and retaining walls, have been carried out.

A sum of 12,828*l.* 3*s.* 2*d.* has been expended in the maintenance of existing public buildings, and 17,421*l.* 2*s.* 4*d.* in the construc-

tion of new buildings. The maintenance consisted of repairs to such of the churches for the upkeep of which Government is still responsible, court houses and public offices, prisons, reformatories, and police stations, hospitals and asylums. In addition to these services the repairing of damages done by the cyclone of August 1880 were completed at the entire charge of the current revenues of 1881 and the previous year.

Among the more important new works carried out may be noticed the following:—

The new hospital at the general penitentiary has been almost completed, and another range of cells well advanced.

The lazaretto at Green Bay has been completed, and has been in occupation for purposes of quarantine. It is now a commodious and convenient quarantine station, and has been provided at a final cost of 6,785*l.* The former station was at the buildings in the Apostles battery, the occupation of which was resumed by the military authorities for the purposes of the recent fortification works.

A large additional building has been erected at the Government printing office, and a new gas engine and additional printing machinery have been erected and set to work there.

The new reformatory for girls at "Admiral's Pen," near Kingston, was nearly finished, and, at the time of writing this report, has been handed over as completed and is in occupation.

At the lunatic asylum a range of single rooms has been completed in the kitchen court.

Several police stations have been built or reconstructed.

A court house and police station with lock up, Out-buildings and tank, have been in construction at Manhead in Manchester, and are now nearly complete.

The public general hospitals at Montego Bay, Saint Ann's, Bay, Port Maria, Linstead, and Dry River, and the lepers' home, near Spanish Town, have been added to and improved.

The department of public works has also executed services for the Parochial Boards of several parishes, such as the erection of bridges, and a market at Half-way Tree, and the preparation of reports on proposed buildings and extensions and improvements.

The Irrigation Works.

This undertaking has been efficiently worked at a total cost of 2,117*l.* 13*s.* 11*d.* against a revenue actually received of 2,239*l.* 11*s.* 10*d.* out of an earning of 2,586*l.* 14*s.* 2*d.*, but it is stated that considerable payments of arrears have since been made. The payment of interest on the capital cost of the works has, as is stated elsewhere in this report, still formed a considerable charge on the general revenues. The director of roads states: "The demand for water for irrigation purposes continues "to increase very slowly. I have still under consideration a "scheme for the re-adjustment of the rates with a view of en- "deavouring to encourage a larger use of the water."

JAMAICA.

It is to be regretted, and not in the interests of the undertaking alone, that only about 2,000 acres of land are irrigated in the large plain through which the canal flows out of an estimated area of about 43,000 acres which could profitably be watered. A project which is now being discussed under promising auspices, for the establishment as a private undertaking of a central factory for the manufacture of sugar from the canes of peasant cultivators on lands which may be irrigated by these works, may, as is intended, serve the double object of contributing to the financial success of the works and of bettering the more humble class of proprietors, besides being the commercial success which appears to have been obtained in some other places in the West Indies with similar undertakings.

The Spanish Town Waterworks have remained under the control of the department, and the director of roads reports that the works have now been entirely completed at an actual cost (including purchase of the old works at a cost of 2,205*l.*) of 8,696*l.* The actual cost of the working and maintenance of the works has been 220*l.* 14*s.* 3*d.* the gross revenue 1,159*l.* 16*s.* 2*d.*, deducting 87*l.* 10*s.* belonging to the previous year, and the cost of working a net sum of 851*l.* 11*s.* 1*d.* was received, or nearly 10 per cent. on the amount of capital. This water supply was provided at so low a cost compared with the numbers supplied and paying rates therefor in consequence of the close proximity of the Rio Cobre from which the supply was drawn.

Lands.

Operations have been taken under the 184th section of Law 22 of 1874 and possession obtained from squatters of 740 acres of land in the parishes of Saint Mary and Hanover and of certain foot land in the towns of Port Antonio and Savanna la Mar leading to the ejectment of five persons.

Several properties which have fallen into the possession of Government were leased out during the year, including the large estates of Thetford in Saint Catherine (3,378 acres) and Golden Vale in Portland (3,491 acres), the former of which has since been sold at auction. Besides this run of land there have been but small sales of land. Since the close of the year to which this report refers some lots of Crown land at high elevation have been sold at auction on very easy terms with the view of securing either their application to cultivation, or their resumption by the Crown in default of such cultivation. It is thus hoped, with considerable promise of success, to stimulate the cultivation of cinchona which has proved to be so remunerative, notwithstanding the several years during which it is necessary to wait for a first crop.

No lands have been escheated during the year.

Railways.

The working of the existing short line of railway between Kingston and Old Harbour with the small branch to Angels ($25\frac{1}{2}$ miles in all) shows a gross revenue of 22,713*l.* 2*s.* 2*d.*, and gross expenditure of 12,774*l.* 7*s.* 3*d.*, leaving a net return of 9,938*l.* 13*s.* 11*d.* This result is less by 4,311*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.* than the net receipts of last year, but exceeds those of the year before by 1,898*l.* 0*s.* 5*d.* We have not far to seek for this reduction, when it is considered that all branches of trade and commerce in the Island have materially suffered during the past year. As an instance directly bearing upon the point it may be noted that the quantity of fish stuffs imported into the port of Kingston for that period was 1,894,705 lbs. less than in 1879–80. Much of the goods traffic receipts of that year was derived from the carriage of fish stuffs which are imported from North America into Kingston, the chief port of entry on the south side of the Island, and thence find their way into the interior to supply the small country retail shops. Bad crops and the low price of coffee and logwood are said also very materially to have affected both the passenger and goods return.

The passenger traffic during the year was made up of 129,196 passengers conveyed by rail and compared with previous years as follows:—

——	1st Class.	2nd Class.	3rd Class.	Season Tickets.
1880–81 -	10,024	13,719	97,673	7,780
1879–80 -	9,250	15,880	119,937	8,220
1878 - -	7,373	15,033	96,499	3,450

The improvement in the railway carriages is no doubt the cause of the increase of 774 first-class passengers over the number carried last year and of 2,651 over those of the year before. In fact the journey by rail is now smoothly performed in comfortable carriages, whilst before the recent alterations and improvements there was not such inducement to leave the road to which the travelling community had been so long accustomed. The decrease in the number of third-class passengers is another indication of the temporary want of prosperity among the lower classes which so much affected the year's revenue.

The working expenses show a decrease of 2,751*l.* 1*s.* 11*d.* against the like last year, the figures being respectively 15,144*l.* 13*s.* 8*d.* and 12,393*l.* 11*s.* 9*d.*; a large part of this reduction is due to the saving in locomotive expenses. The working expenses and the gross receipts per train mile were respectively 4*s.* 10*d.* · 35 and 8*s.* 7*d.* · 63, and the former bear a proportion to the latter of 56 · 31 per centum. The reconstruction and renewal of the line has been pushed on during this year.

JAMAICA.

Railway Extensions.

Up to the 30th September 1881 these extension works were carried on by the Government pending the completion of an agreement with contractors which was under consideration. The extensions are those from Old Harbour to Porus in Manchester parish, a distance of 24½ miles, and from the Angels to Ewarton in Saint Catherine's parish, a distance of 14¼ miles. On the former branch 1,317 hands were employed during the last month of the year under review, and a total expenditure incurred on labour, exclusive of any plant, to 30th September 1881 of 14,402*l.* 12*s.* 10*d.* On the Ewarton branch 1,250 hands were employed at the same time, and a total expenditure to the same date incurred of 20,335*l.*; but this sum included the following sums:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Reconstruction of Angels Branch -	3,599	6	8
Kingston Station - - -	3,398	12	1
	6,997	18	9

The services for which these sums are charged were included in the estimate of the Ewarton extension.

On the Porus extension the chief engineer reported that the cleared land was up to the 18th mile and the fencing was completed up to the third mile, and was in progress at various points up to the 10th mile. All the cuttings and banks up to the 13th mile were in progress. The commencement of laying the permanent way was deferred until after the October seasons.

Of the Ewarton extension the same officer reported that the land had been cleared to the ninth mile and the fencing completed up to the 3¾ miles. All the cuttings and banks up to the 8½ mile were in progress. At this point the channel of the Rio Cobre had been considerably widened and platforms made for mixing the concrete for the retaining wall of the railway. The rails had been laid and the road lifted and ballasted up to the third mile, and this work was being continued.

Telegraphs, Inland.

The telegraphic circuit of the Island has been completed during the year 1880–81, and at the close of the year there were 33 stations open, comprising one head station in the chief town of each parish, except St. Andrew's (the vicinity of which to Kingston rendered telegraphic communication unnecessary at the time), and out-stations tapping important districts.

Four out-stations, which were not self-supporting, were closed during the year, no guarantee against loss being forthcoming, but one was re-opened on the necessary guarantee being afterwards furnished by residents in the neighbourhood interested in preserving the convenience. The cost of maintaining these stations

is only 40*l.* each per annum, and to residents in the locality the benefits to be derived from telegraphic communication with other parts of the Island should far outweigh the small risk of guarantee involved. That this fact is already realised in many parts of the Colony is one of the many signs of the appreciation with which the introduction here of the electric telegraph has been regarded.

The total number of messages sent and received during the year was 46,859, producing a revenue of 2,592*l.* 10*s.* against an expenditure of 3,276*l.* 1*s.* 10½*d.*, which includes, however, sums amounting to at least 236*l.* 4*s.* 1*d.* chargeable to capital account, and a further sum of 150*l.* paid as bonuses to telegraph operators who have perfected themselves in the use of the instrument previous to final appointment. The financial results of the system considering that all the stations have not been in existence during the whole year must be regarded as satisfactory.

In the current year since the close of that under review the receipts are steadily increasing and are quite equalling the working expenses. The general revenue might well always pay the interest on the capital cost of 15,000*l.* in consideration of the convenience of the institution for public purposes, but I anticipate that in a few years the gross receipts will be sufficient to cover the interest and sinking fund for the redemption of the capital, and that the telegraph to some slight extent will become a source of receipts in aid of revenue.

District Courts.

The business transacted in each of the last 10 years is shown in the following summary :—

—	1872.	1873.	1874.	1875.	1876.	1877.	1878.	1879.	1880.	1881.
Criminal trials -	2,437	2,679	3,210	3,545	3,862	3,707	4,054	3,319	3,197	4,372
Small causes -	7,396	8,050	7,982	8,531	9,446	9,212	9,616	7,704	7,652	7,779
Judgment summonses - -	—	843	1,397	1,511	1,736	1,670	1,579	1,592	1,692	1,514
Equity cases -	15	13	7	5	6	8	21	20	15	19
Cases under Land Law - -	485	241	228	133	309	222	163	104	126	159
Bankruptcy cases	5	8	6	4	13	17	5	1	8	1
Probate cases -	31	29	23	39	62	93	94	102	109	147
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Amount claimed -	39,896	41,148	50,325	52,093	56,490	60,894	63,300	51,510	47,408	54,736
Judgment obtained	15,770	19,873	25,773	26,048	27,970	30,976	32,348	28,479	34,056	30,747
Costs - - -	3,493	3,810	4,212	5,812	4,952	5,531	5,626	4,952	4,957	5,351
Court fees - -	4,432	4,600	4,721	4,994	5,597	5,436	5,491	4,757	4,484	4,588

There were six appeals from the decisions of these courts during the year, four being in civil and two in criminal cases. In two cases judgment was reversed, in one the convictions were quashed, one appeal was dismissed, and in two cases the judgments of the district courts were affirmed.

The decrease in the numbers of criminal trials and "small causes" cases since 1878 in these courts had engaged attention during the

JAMAICA.

year in connexion with the periodical returns made to Government, and the judges of two districts, on being referred to, attributed it to a real diminution of graver crime, many of the criminal class having emigrated to the canal works on the Isthmus, to a less tendency to litigation, and to a greater and wholesome reluctance to giving credit in small shop transaction.

The criminal trials have again indeed risen in the year under review to a greater number than in any of the previous 10, but this is entirely attributable to the late temporary prevalence of cases of petty prædial larceny of which the district courts have special cognizance. The current year shows great diminution.

Botanical Gardens and Government Plantations.

During the year the usual operations of the department have been carried on with regularity, and seem to have largely accomplished their chief aim in bringing into notice the nature and character of the valuable natural resources of the Colony and in fostering and promoting any well directed efforts to render them useful.

New importations of plants and seeds contributed in exchange, and otherwise, have been repeated, and besides these there have been gifts of seeds and rare plants from some members of the community.

Additions to the departmental library by gift and purchase, the gratuitous carriage of plants by the Atlas Company and by the Government railway, and the now apparently established annual horticultural exhibitions are recognised by the director as valuable aids to him in his work.

The distributions of the department both gratuitously and on nominal payments have been large, consisting for the most part of valuable plants of economic value, such as Liberian coffee, cacao, nutmegs, &c. &c., and seeds of cinchona, ornamental and timber trees, &c.

Plants for gardens have also been supplied in considerable numbers.

It is noticed this year as a novel feature that much activity is now displayed by the humbler classes to obtain new plants for cultivation. Perhaps this may be regarded as the effect of freer communication between the people and the dissemination of information regarding these new products.

In evidence of the practical usefulness of the department as a means of distribution of plants it may be stated that during the past year the following plants, &c. were among others sent out on payment:—

Eighty-four ounces of seed, 330,000 seedlings, and 50,000 plants of cinchona, 40,000 plants of the best Trinidad cacao, Liberian coffee, selected oranges, nutmeg, East Indian mangoes, cardamons, vanilla, clove, cinnamon, pine apple suckers, and newly imported sugar canes.

These were mainly distributed from Castleton gardens and Hope plantation. Notwithstanding the fact that certain prices are now charged for plants with the view of their being more valued and taken care of by the recipients, the number of plants distributed is steadily increasing, and the receipts for such sales during the past year amounted 700*l.* The total sales, including cinchona, amounted, to nearly 3,400*l.*, while the cost of the whole department was estimated at 5,431*l.* for the year.

Cinchona Plantations.

The buildings destroyed by the cyclone of 1880 have been substantially repaired and two rooms erected at the same time for storing bark and for extra barrack accommodation.

Special attention has been directed to the establishment of suitable nurseries on each of the plantations from which to supply plants for distribution elsewhere and for planting out on the plantations. These nurseries contained at the time of the annual report the following comparatively large number of plants:—

C. officinalis - - -	155,000
Var. do. writusinga - -	2,000
C. hybrid - - -	8,000
C. calisaya - -	5,000
C. sucirubra - -	3,000
C. ledgeriana - -	5,000
Making a total of plants	178,000

The operations on the plantations have consisted for the most part of weeding and cleaning plants established in 1879 and 1880 and supplying vacancies. One small plantation of about 10 acres was up-rooted and coppiced and the up-rooted portion cleaned, trenched, and re-planted with the hybrid variety, with the results so far of fully justifying a formerly expressed opinion of the director that lands from which crops of cinchona have been taken will, if properly treated, be quite capable of producing subsequent crops of the same plant. The coppiced stumps are said to be doing well, they are about 18 months old, 4 feet high, and in strong health. The Bellevue plantation is being out-planted with the best kind of cinchona to replace C. succirubra which was planted out four or five years ago but has not thriven in that particular locality. The director remarks in connexion with this plantation as follows:—

"Among the new species already established are 1,485 plants "of C. ledgeriana raised from seed received from Ceylon; 7,534 "plants, C. calisaya of the Jamaica plantations determined by "Mr. John Eliot Howard, F.R.S.; 11,678 C. officinalis, var. "writusinga from the Government plantations, Southern India; "and 3,500 of C. officinalis stated by Mr. Howard to be the "Colorado de Loxa of Spanish commerce. The total number "of plants put out being 24,197."

JAMAICA.

The other plantations are in good order and well established Seed of the C. officinalis is produced in large quantities, more than sufficient to meet local demands and enough for the wants of any intending planters.

Seed of the other varieties are not so plentiful, but supplies are received from abroad.

The director states that "the chief event of the past year in "connexion with the cinchona plantations has been the successful "introduction on a large scale of the valuable cinchona ledgeriana, "which is admittedly the most precious of all the known species "of cinchona." An expectation is expressed that before the end of the year following that under report this description will be largely established.

Only one shipment of bark was made during the year, viz., 14,397 lbs. of dried bark, which realised prices varying from 7*s.* 8*d.* for trunk bark, to 1*s.* 6*d.* for twig bark. The net result of the shipment was 2,675*l.* 6*s.* 9*d.* Cinchona cultivation is being embarked on already to some extent by private persons; and, as facilities are now given for the acquisition of some runs of Government land on favourable conditions which are intended to secure either the proper application of the land or its resumption by the Crown, and as the supply of seeds and plants, especially of the valuable Crown bark (officinalis) is stated to be adequate to any demands, it may reasonably be expected to extend itself considerably in a short time.

The weather observatory established at the cinchona plantation at an elevation of 4,900 feet is believed to be one of the highest stations in the British Colonies, and it is intended to work it in connexion with the meteorological stations already established by Mr. Maxwell Hall in the Colony under the auspices and with the aid of the Colonial Government. A tropical rain-gauge and self-registering maximum and minimum thermometers have also been placed on the Blue Mountain ridge at an elevation of 6,000 feet and readings taken three times a week.

The average readings at 7 a.m. and 3 p.m. of the barometer at the cinchona plantation are 25·350, the average annual temperature 63° Fah., the average annual rainfall (on readings for 9 years) 124 inches.

The trial crop of jalap harvested in the year consisted of about 3,400 lbs. of green tubers yielding 1,077 lbs. cured jalap. This drug grows luxuriantly and almost wild, and the chief difficulty is in its careful drying and curing, the results of experiments and experience in which are given in the director's annual report. Two small shipments were made to the London market and one to New York, with the result that the former netted 6¼*d.* and 7*d.* per pound, and the latter 7¼*d.* Further efforts will be made this year, and Hamburg has been suggested as a better market still.

The experiment, so far, has not paid its way, the expenses being 47*l.* and the net proceeds only 28*l.*

The Parade Garden in Kingston has been well kept up, and affords relaxation to the inhabitants which is greatly appreciated. Some of the trees have now attained a considerable size ; a trained European gardener has been placed in charge with a view of rendering this garden more useful as a model of ornamental cultivation and a centre for the diffusion of useful and decorative plants easily accessible to visitors and within reach of the shipping and other carriage facilities which Kingston possesses.

The yield of the Palisadoes plantation was much affected by the effects of the cyclone in August 1880. The trees yielded, however, 75,000 nuts, which were sold for 250*l.* 2*s.* Upon these results of the experiment for the utilization of otherwise waste lands, the director bases some calculations which seem conclusively to prove how very profitable the cultivation of the cocoanut would prove to anyone desirous of embarking in the business. A trial in the shipment of copra has shown that it would be a profitable industry, when the price of cocoanuts is below 40*s.* per thousand.

At the Hope plantation the nurseries for the propagation and distribution of economic plants, including trees and sugar canes, have been maintained at a cost within the receipts obtained for plants sold. A valuable addition has been made in securing for the use of the gardens the overflow water from the Kingston and Liguanea Waterworks, which is expected to be, except in severe drought, 52,000 gallons a day.

The old Botanic Garden at Bath, 42 miles from Kingston, has also received some attention with the view of increasing its usefulness.

The gardens at King's House have been placed under the control of the director with a view to their being made useful so far as possible for the benefit of the public in addition to their primary intention as ornamental grounds surrounding to the Governor's residence.

Attention has been directed to the question of forest conservation and *reboisement*, to which important end legislation will probably be necessary.

In all branches of this department the interest and energy of the director have been unremitting, and it is thought, not without appreciation, by the community.

Education.

To use the words of the chief inspector of schools, the returns of the work of the educational department for the year "show a "retrogression in educational work, not only unprecedented but "greater than the advance in any year since the introduction of "the present system."

JAMAICA.

The principal results of the inspection of the schools throughout the Colony during the year will be seen in the following return:—

Year.	Schools inspected.	On Books.	Pupils average attendance.	Percentage in average attendance of number on Books.	1st Class Schools.	2nd Class Schools.	3rd Class Schools.	Exceptional.	Failures.	Grants in aid including Building Grants.
										£
1880 -	681	56,382	32,871	58·30	70	238	337	17	19	20,493
1881 -	687	48,960	26,649	54·41	52	195	343	11	86	17,547

The chief inspector ascribes this retrogression in the apparent results of educational work of the Colony to the after effects of the cyclone of 1880, and the prolonged drought and consequent distress which prevailed during the first half of 1881, which "not "only greatly diminished the number of pupils on the books and "in average attendance, but from the irregularity which they "caused in the attendance of individual children prevented the "quality of the work done from reaching so high a standard as in "the previous years."

In the western parishes not visited by the calamities referred to some retrogression was also observed and some other than the exceptional causes referred to must have had their share in producing it. What these may be is not definitely stated, although it is ascribed by some of the inspectors and others of experience to a growing disinclination of parents to send their children to school. This was certainly not the conviction of men of large experience but a few years ago, and nothing is put forward as a reason why the disinclination should have arisen and be developing itself. In the report of the Commissioners appointed to inquire into the condition of the juvenile population in 1877, the Commissioners while recommending the introduction of a system of compulsory education observed that "the respectable part of the "people exhibit a fair inclination to secure education for their "children," and in noticing the condition of education in the Island they observed, "amongst the more respectable classes, and "particularly amongst those who come within the range of religious "influences, the duty is very fairly recognized." From the experience of every day life in the Colony since that report, it must be judged (without direct evidence to the contrary) that the benefits of education are as much appreciated now as then by the mass of the people, and that exceptional causes which have temporarily affected their prosperity to a more or less degree have also had effect on the attendance of the children.

The chief inspector complains of the low character of our third-class schools, and ascribes it to the utter incompetence for the most part of the teachers. This difficulty has confronted every effort to extend education in this Island, and although training

colleges have been for some years at work it will be long before a sufficient number of properly trained teachers will be available for the elementary schools. Small remuneration is the chief reason commonly given for the inferior class of men to be obtained as teachers, but as Mr. Capper points out, a first-class teacher can obtain from the grant and fees alone over 60*l.* a year. This is very fair remuneration for four days' work in the week, and it does not seem therefore that the reason given is the right one. It is more probable that the educational advantages of which the present class of teachers could avail themselves in the past is not up to the standard of present requirements. In fact, that the teachers of a superior class are not to be found in the Colony. Since the close of the year under report a scheme has been adopted for the examination of teachers and for the granting of Government certificates with a small annual payment by way of premium.

As bearing upon the character of the teachers it is much to be regretted that the falsification of registers should be so much resorted to. It is, as is pointed out in Mr. Capper's report, a great temptation to a poor teacher to falsify his register so as to obtain a larger capitation grant, and he strongly supports a recommendation of an assistant inspector to the various religious denominations to adopt the system of the Moravians and make the salary of their teachers independent of the amount of the capitation grant.

The question of school fees is still a difficult one, for so many of the people object to pay them, being under the impression that Government pay the teachers, and then if the teacher insists upon payment the child is withdrawn. Some systematic action on the part of all the teachers in this matter and the advice of their ministers to the people would go far to overcome this difficulty which is after all not universal. In the report of the Commissioners to inquire into the condition of the juvenile population (to which reference has already been made) it is stated that parents had shown a disposition to recognize the obligation to pay for their children's schooling, and mainly on that ground they recommended that an education tax should be imposed rather than that free education should be given. Free or compulsory education would, however, be very expensive, and an education tax is therefore an indispensable necessity to any such system, while it may not be sufficiently considered that its adoption would largely involve the withdrawal of the valuable, voluntary, effective aid given by ministers of religion as managers of schools under the existing system.

A change which must be of great convenience to the teachers has this year been made in the mode of paying the annual grants. Advances to managers are now made quarterly instead of half yearly.

Although the work being done in the lower schools generally is not spoken of by the inspectors as of such value as might be, it is gratifying to hear that many of our first-class schools are doing

JAMAICA.

excellent work under zealous managers and teachers with gratifying results.

That there is a very great deal yet to be done to improve the elementary schools of the Colony cannot be gainsaid, but having regard to the material to be worked upon in the shape of incompetent teachers, and children of parents for several generations neglected, and to the time within which any real attempt has been made to establish a general system of education, very fair progress has been made. Any passer-by of to-day contrasting his experiences with those of twenty years ago cannot fail to admit that the education of the people has greatly improved.

Immigration.

During the year under review only one ship with East Indian immigrants arrived in the Colony, bringing 504 souls, equal to 469 statute adults, who arrived in the "Howrah" from Calcutta on the 8th June 1881. After the usual examination by a medical board, those of the immigrants who were passed as fit for agricultural labour were allotted to estates in the parishes of St. Mary, Clarendon, Manchester, St. Elizabeth, and Westmoreland.

One return vessel, the "Syria," was despatched on the 22nd July 1881 for Calcutta with the following number of time-expired immigrants:—

219 men.
96 women.
46 boys.
34 girls.
8 infants.

403 souls, equal to 355 statute adults.

Bills on India, amounting to 7,348*l.* 11*s.* 4*d.*, were drawn on account of deposits made by these people, and it is reported that they were as usual possessed of considerable quantities of gold and silver jewellery, besides having with them a large sum in sovereigns, on which they no doubt intended to obtain the high premium which gold bears in India.

Although the mortality in the year was at the rate of 3·78 as against 2·34 during the previous year, the increase is attributable chiefly to what it may be hoped were only temporary causes, the year having apparently been an exceptionally unhealthy one.

The protector in his report draws attention to the continued prosperity of the Immigration Fund notwithstanding the very depressed state of the sugar industry and consequent falling off in the export duties on sugar and rum. But as a matter of fact one short crop is no evidence of permanent depression, and the crop of the current year 1882 is admitted to be the largest obtained for 30 or 40 years. The Immigration Fund derived from

export duties is of course accumulating while the importations of immigrants have much diminished, and the cost of these is chiefly defrayed from advances from the savings bank. All the hospital expenses formerly defrayed from the fund now fall on the general revenue.

There were in the Colony on the 30th September 1881 the following number of East Indian immigrants :—

Serving under indenture - - -	2,073
Over five, and under ten years' residence -	4,845
Over ten - - - - -	7,486
Total - -	14,404

There were no applications for immigrants in the year under review.

Government Savings Bank.

The number of depositors and amount of deposits in the bank in each of the last 10 years are shown below :—

Year.	Number of Depositors.	Amount of Deposits.
		£
1872	3,396	142,240
1873	3,962	158,933
1874	4,582	179,176
1875	5,061	228,028
1876	5,431	243,171
1877	5,756	253,983
1878	6,002	273,620
1879	6,341	294,589
1880	7,297	333,970
1881	7,970	342,339

In the above amounts are included eight deposit accounts for the following public funds :—

	£
Immigration colonization fund - -	11,754
Immigration return passage fund - -	6,643
Constabulary reward fund - - -	5,288
Constabulary pension fund - - -	15,465
Sinking funds - - - -	33,287
Smith and Beckford's charity - -	2,146

There were further 151 accounts for trusts, charities, chancery suits, administrator general and bankrupt estates amounting to a total deposit of 31,727*l.*

The remaining 7,811 depositors of 236,028*l.* are all ordinary savings bank accounts. Of the 7,970 deposit accounts, 7,197 did not exceed 100*l.*, and 4,142 did not exceed 5*l.* Among the depositors were 456 coolies with deposits amounting to 11,491*l.*

Of the deposits at 30th September 1881 201,932*l.* were

JAMAICA.

invested in Island Debentures, 99,229*l.* were invested in Three Per Cent. Consols and in Colonial securities other than those of Jamaica, 14,595*l.* were applied to the discount of the notes of employers, given to meet the cost of introduction of indentured immigrants, and the balance of 25,512*l.* was the Treasury debt to the bank. At the date of this report, under the operation of Law 19 of 1880, the investments in Jamaica securities have been entirely transferred to those of Consols and other Colonies' securities.

During the year 2,717 accounts were opened and 2,044 closed, and the transactions were represented by 14,279 deposits amounting to 159,076*l.*, and by 17,225 withdrawals of 158,901*l.* The increase in the amount of withdrawals may fairly be attributed to the reduction of the rate of interest, from 4 to 3 per cent., which took effect on 1st April 1881, and which led to the withdrawal of sums, not really savings, that had been deposited merely as a means of investment and to amounts not legitimately belonging to savings bank transactions. It is known that several large withdrawals which were made were re-invested in some Colonial debentures locally offered at the time.

The expenses of management and the interest credited to depositors was 13,356*l.* against a revenue for investment of deposits 15,525*l.* leaving a difference in favour of the bank of 2,169*l.*

Trade.

The value of the imports in each of the last 10 years has been as follows :—

	£		£
1871–72	1,559,602	1876–77	1,552,339
1872–73	1,733,121	1877–78	1,492,722
1873–74	1,762,817	1878–79	1,347,342
1874–75	1,759,942	1879–80	1,475,197
1875–76	1,700,254	1880–81	1,392,669

thus showing a falling off of 82,528*l.* in the year under report, of which 72,441*l.*, was on dutiable and 10,087*l.* on free goods. The decreases occur principally under the following articles :— Ale, 6,395*l.*; beef, wet salted, 3,767*l.*; candles, composition, 1,404*l.*; candles, tallow, 701*l.*; cheese, 1,126*l.*; cotton manufactures, 112,033*l.*; fish, dried or salted, 16,873*l.*; herrings pickled, 5,957*l.*; hardware, 12,745*l.*; haberdashery and millinery, 18,294*l.*; leather, including boots, 12,273*l.*; mackerel, 2,149*l.*; pork, wet salted, 5,682*l.*; rice, 6,964*l.*; soap, 10,016*l.*; spirits, 1,335*l.*; wines, 11,248*l.*; wood, white pine, 6,433*l.*; and in unenumerated articles, 11,048*l.* While there are increases under bread and biscuit, 4,304*l.*; butter, 4,956*l.*; corn, 3,367*l.*; flour, 48,874*l.*; groceries, 5,078*l.*; meal, 28,895*l.*; peas and beans, 2,709*l.*; salt, 3,946*l.*; oils, 9,174*l.*; and steam engines, 17,907*l.*

These differences indicate the failure of native provisions, and the want of purchasing power of the mass elsewhere referred to.

The following table, showing the value of the articles imported which were freed from duty in 1867, is given in continuation of similar tables in previous reports:—

—	1871-72.	1872-73.	1873-74.	1874-75.	1875-76.	1876-77.	1877-78.	1878-79.	1879-80.	1880-81.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Steam engines -	14,033	28,603	11,485	18,152	15,360	14,735	8,857	7,306	2,802	20,709
Mills - -	21,644	13,804	10,219	5,803	5,128	1,643	2,115	5,724	2,661	1,702
Other machinery -	5,165	9,149	5,026	11,331	2,434	11,443	3,113	3,402	3,323	5,075
Pans for boiling sugar.	6,052	4,603	2,839	3,649	1,318	2,134	2,483	2,124	6,132	1,190
Pipes for fluids -	1,801	19,687	1,801	1,830	1,955	3,755	2,095	1,193	1,435	1,534
Stills - -	1,906	6,076	3,986	6,848	3,153	1,619	1,880	433	696	5,217
Shooks of all sorts -	16,743	17,051	17,070	20,299	15,845	14,545	11,761	7,460	8,488	4,370
Staves - -	7,945	5,205	15,207	21,650	11,816	19,503	6,040	4,524	10,519	3,299
Wood hoops -	2,653	1,856	1,822	2,192	1,609	1,447	2,066	1,043	1,919	756
Iron, galvanized -	5,666	6,971	5,339	5,746	4,533	3,259	2,229	2,097	974	5,156
„ other manufactures.	56	—	462	—	5	—	381	—	1,344	4,964
Miscellaneous -	5,367	5,243	3,559	3,050	3,872	5,651	3,730	4,892	4,592	7,443
	89,031	118,248	78,815	100,550	67,028	79,734	46,750	40,798	64,885	61,415

The value of the exports in each of the last 10 years is shown below:—

—	Values.		
	Of Produce and Manufacture of the Colony.	Of British, Foreign, and other Colonial Produce and Manufactures.	Total.
	£	£	£
1870–71	1,196,532	52,153	1,248,685
1871–72	1,348,858	69,585	1,418,443
1872–73	1,144,173	81,838	1,226,011
1873–74	1,369,507	72,573	1,442,080
1874–75	1,359,868	50,616	1,410,484
1875–76	1,440,131	76,884	1,517,015
1876–77	1,419,625	39,004	1,458,669
1877–78	1,175,145	35,560	1,210,705
1878–79	1,262,869	94,702	1,357,571
1879–80	1,427,144	85,834	1,512,978
1880–81	1,104,407	74,187	1,178,594

Here again a considerable decrease appears in the year under report, the total value of the exports being in fact less than in any other year in the decade and 334,384*l.* less than the valve of those in the year immediately preceding. Decreases appear under all the principal items of export, viz.:—Sugar, 160,923*l.*; rum, 34,686*l.*; coffee, 23,338*l.*; logwood, 29,185*l.*; pimento, 57,727*l.*; bananas, 15,891*l.*; cocoanuts, 11,692*l.*; cocoa, 9,043*l.*; ginger, 6,648*l.* While there are increases under cattle, 2,610*l.*; oranges, 8,395*l.*; limejuice, 2,612*l*; walking sticks, 2,483*l.*; cigars, 8,699*l.*; tobacco leaf, 1,244*l.* While the decrease in value of total exports has been 22 per centum, in sugar the per-centage of loss has been 34, in rum 16, in coffee 9, in logwood 18, and in pimento 39, showing the short crops of the larger staples.

JAMAICA.

The quantities exported of the principal staples for the last 10 years are shown in the following table :—

Exports.	1871-72.	1872-73.	1873-74.	1874-75.	1875-76.	1876-77.	1877-78.	1878-79.	1879-80.	1880-81.
Sugar - - hhds.	35,353	28,428	28,398	27,847	29,074	30,569	26,066	29,151	32,117	21,056
Rum - - phns.	20,113	16,584	19,350	21,359	22,048	20,648	18,115	18,792	18,586	13,952
Coffee - - lbs.	9,510,739	7,199,144	10,311,427	7,136,307	8,649,049	9,532,887	9,411,662	10,832,127	10,188,897	9,846,096
Pimento - lbs.	5,140,898	6,024,551	5,762,256	6,440,040	4,474,690	6,670,603	6,195,109	5,881,176	10,215,479	6,058,264
Dyewoods — fustic and logwood - tons	80,699	52,952	65,241	84,523	77,229	47,697	36,070	58,658	48,024	45,459
Ginger - lbs.	590,766	815,659	1,181,789	1,490,845	1,613,764	1,097,863	908,603	769,636	889,847	751,494
Arrowroot - lbs.	13,193	2,470	1,636	21,983	21,152	3,514	4,599	7,982	4,480	1,888

The value of the cinchona bark exported was 4,650*l.* against 7,302*l.* in the year before. This is principally the produce of the Government plantation, and is dealt with under the heading of this report relating to that department.

A statement of the value of the fruit exported is shown below :—

	£
1871–72 - - -	6,190
1872–73 - - -	4,757
1873–74 - - -	10,397
1874–75 - - -	20,526
1875–76 - - -	22,350
1876–77 - - -	39,451
1877–78 - - -	40,157
1878–79 - - -	51,295
1879–80 - - -	51,295
1880–81 - - -	44,216

The damage done by the cyclone of August 1880 and by the following drought to the banana and cocoanut trees in the parishes of Portland and St. Mary, which are the chief fruit growing districts, will more than account for the arrest of the increase of these products in the year under report.

As showing the increase in the trade with the United States, which the frequent and regular communication between the two countries fosters, it may be mentioned in continuation of the remarks on the subject in last year's report that the percentage of the total imports from the United Kingdom and the States has stood as follows in each of the last five years :—

—	1876–77.	1877–78.	1878–79.	1879–80.	1880–81.
United Kingdom -	54·	51·	51·	53·	46·
United States -	29·	31·	31·	32·	39·
Canada - -	12·	14·	14·	12·	10·

While the exports in same period were distributed thus:—

——	1876–77.	1877–78.	1878–79.	1879–80.	1880–81.
United Kingdom -	79·	79·	73·	67·	66·
United States -	15·	14·	15·	20·	19·
Canada - -	·05	·06	1·	5·	6·

The transfer of the carrying trade from sailing vessels to steamers is illustrated by the following figures of tonnage:—

——	1876–77.	1880–81.
Sail - - - -	125,710	90,889
Steam - - - -	223,584	305,822
Totals - -	349,294	396,417

The totals had increased by only 13 per centum, while the increase in steam tonnage was 36.

The proportions of the nationalities of all vessels were:—

——	1876–77.	1880–81.
	Per cent.	Per cent.
United Kingdom - - -	69	81
British Colonies - - -	5	4
United States - - -	7	6
Foreign - - - -	18	8

Agriculture.

The total area of land upon which property tax was paid in 1880-81 was 1,805,895 acres out of a computed total acreage in the Island of 2,710,625 acres, from which may probably be fairly deducted 356,828 acres as consisting chiefly of swamps, rocks, and inaccessible land which still remains unpatented.

The collections of the tax this year show a decrease of 112,878 acres as compared with last year's collection. In making such a comparison, the depression of the year, especially in agriculture, must be kept in view, and doubtless much of it will be gathered in eventually, probably a large portion will have been already col-

JAMAICA.

lected in the current year as "arrears." Of that decrease 97,043 acres were in unprofitable lands in wood and "ruinate," and the remainder under the following principal heads of cultivation :—

	Acres.
Canes - - - -	3,443
Coffee - - - -	2,403
Ground provisions - - -	7,085

While there appear increases of 606 acres in the comparatively cultivated Guinea grass lands, and 6,356 acres of pasture on which the valuable pimento tree is grown, the common pasture showing a decrease of 7,887 acres. The minor products still occupy too small acreages to allow the tax-collecting returns to be a safe guide of their progress.

With regard to the decreases under the heads of cane and coffee, the Collector General remarks that they "may be partially attri-"buted to lateness of payments by small settlers (which will be "brought to account as arrears during the current year), and to "the abandonment of a few small estates." The former cause without doubt accounts for the apparent decrease under coffee. So far from there being a decrease it is notorious that the cultivation is being extended, especially of the Liberian variety. As regards the cane, it is a hopeful feature that in the year following that under report the crop is generally stated to be the largest produced for many years.

The Collector of Manchester, accounting for a decrease of 611 acres of coffee in his parish, states: "Decrease attributable chiefly to arrears, that will progressively be brought in."

The Collector of St. Andrew states that the decrease in his parish of 601 acres "is attributable to the fact that many persons "who paid their taxes during the year 1879-80 have not done so "for the year 1880-81, owing to the protracted drought which "followed the cyclone and continued throughout the year, thereby "causing serious loss to the growers of coffee."

These explanations from parishes in which coffee is largely produced bear out the assertion that there has been no real decrease in coffee cultivation.

The export of the berry during the year has been above the average of the preceding nine years, although 3,061 cwt. below the exportations of last year. A temporary discouraging factor may be in the low price lately ruling for coffee of the inferior description, which is produced by the small settler, and which there is not sufficient effort to improve by better cultivation, and still more important, by better curing and by some sorting.

The Collector-General in his report expresses a fear that the cultivation of ginger, for which this Colony has enjoyed, and rightly so, some small celebrity, is "becoming extinct, as the "quantity exported decreases annually," but although the export in the year 1880-81 is lower by 982 cwt. than in 1879-80, it is more by 92 cwt. than in the year 1878-79. In the decade the

average exportation has been 9,051 cwt., and in 1880-81 the export was 6,963 cwt.

In accounting for the decrease in the cultivation of ginger, the Collector of Manchester (where ginger is chiefly grown) states: "The cultivation of ginger is confined to high lands in the "northern district. The soil being at present worn out will "require a few years rest prior to resumption of culture." And the Collector of Westmoreland, in one district of which parish a considerable cultivation was carried on, ascribes the decrease to the fact that "for the past four or five years the corps have so "materially failed as to dishearten the cultivators."

Upon the other hand the returns show an increase of 12 acres in cultivation in Trelawny.

The cultivation of tobacco has increased during the year, as has been observed, by 116 acres; and the exports of unmanufactured tobacco were 77,007 lbs. in 1880-81 against 35,271 lbs. the year before. The larger portion goes to the German market. Cigars of native manufacture were exported to the extent of 25,928 lbs., against 9,826 in 1879-80, being the largest export in any year since the experiment of tobacco cultivation may be said to have been first fairly tried in Jamaica in 1872. The Jamaica cigars of certain brands have now made a name for themselves in the English market. In the Colony they are almost universally smoked, and their manufacture in Kingston alone gives employment to a large number of men, foreigners and natives. A "Jamaica "Tobacco Manufacturing Company" is in existence, with plantations in Clarendon parish and a depôt in Kingston.

The cultivation of cacoa is assuming a position, the importance or evidence of which is not indicated by the property tax returns, probably for the reason that this plant in its younger growth requires the shade of, and is grown along with, some other cultivation under whose headings it is returned by the Collectors. It is a tree which from circumstances suffered considerably from the cyclone of August 1880, and would take quite 18 months to recover itself. Consequently in the year under review the export of this article, which had steadily been increasing for several years, fell to nearly one fifth of what it had been in 1879-80. It is, however, known that the cultivation is really being very largely extended, and the Director of Plantations is himself aware of some 500 acres so planted, while from the returns of property tax paid there appears to be only 26 acres in cacoa, owing to the fact already mentioned of the cacoa being cultivated along with other produce under which the land is returned for fiscal purposes. Mr. Morris's successful visit to Trinidad, with the view of acquiring some practical knowledge of the cultivation and treatment of the cacoa, and the popular lecture which he subsequently gave and published, have doubtless given an impetus to the attention to this minor product, which may reasonably be expected to recover the importance as an export held by it in years now long gone past.

JAMAICA.

The production of fruit, as has been before observed in past reports, must be judged by the exports, and not by the area under cultivation, which is not shown in the returns. The quantities of the fruit most in demand, exported during the last two years, are as follows:—

	Quantities.		Value.	
	1879-80.	1880-81.	1879-80.	1880-81.
			£	£
Cocoanuts - No.	6,315,475	2,560,534	20,525	8,833
Bananas - Bunches	440,642	217,592	38,556	22,665
Oranges - - No.	14,609,489	23,626,209	11,687	20,082
Pineapples - - Doz.	3,480	5,586	522	698

These figures show a large falling off in cocoanuts and bananas, attributable to the cyclone on the 18th August 1880, which levelled the banana fields, and uprooted thousands of bearing cocoanut trees. There was not time before the end of the financial year 1881 for the banana trade to right itself in comparison with the previous year, but after the cyclone the planters were not discouraged, and at once set about replanting. The banana, the crop of which matures in 12 or 15 months, has quite recovered at the time of reporting, while it is generally admitted that the effects of such a cyclone on the cocoanut tree are felt for two or three years.

The export of oranges, however, has increased greatly, and the demand on the Government gardens for seedlings is very large, showing a constantly increasing cultivation.

The chief orange district of the Island, Manchester, scarcely suffered from the cyclone, and in the other districts where oranges are largely grown the worst disaster was the destruction of the young fruit, hence the year's export did not suffer in consequence of that disaster to any extent.

The export of pineapples increased by 2,106 doz. over 1879–80, but there is room for a great expansion of this branch of the fruit trade, if more attention were given to it. It is unfortunate that a company formed some time ago for "canning" these and other native fruits should have had but a brief existence. Fairly worked such an enterprise ought to prove remunerative.

The favourable returns obtained from the Government cinchona plantations have induced many gentlemen of means to embark in the speculation of growing bark. Several lots of virgin land in the High Blue mountains which had been forfeited to Government have been sold at a small upset price per acre, upon conditions as to the area to be planted within a given period, and the roads to be made to give access to the lands.

For the greater part of the year the Island suffered from drought, which told severely on the food of the people, the yam crop almost failed and prædial larceny became vere rife.

Police.

The strength of the Jamaica constabulary on the 30th September 1881 stood as under:—

1 Inspector-General.
21 officers.
689 sub-officers and men.

To this force were attached 12 orderly horses, besides 33 horses belonging to the inspectors, and three to the depôt staff, for which forage is allowed; and an allowance of 6*s.* 8*d.* a month, which is considered sufficient in most country parts to obtain pasturage is made to 100 constables who own horses and regularly use them for actual police purposes.

The rural police on the same date numbered 189 men, only one parish (Kingston not being in consideration), St. Andrew's, being without a contingent of this valuable auxiliary force which is allotted to parishes in numbers proportionate to the area.

The following table epitomizes the services performed by the constabulary during the year:—

Search warrants executed - -	161
Apprehensions on warrant - -	2,734
„ on information and on view	8,967
Persons summoned - - -	9,145
„ subpœnaed - - -	14,700
Prisoners escorted - - -	20,541
Revenue seizures - - -	994
Post-mortem examinations ordered -	596

Besides these duties there were of course the ordinary routine of court and patrol duty.

The state of crime is shown in the returns furnished by the Inspector-General for 1880–81, in comparison with the two previous years, as follows:—

——	1878–79.	1879–80.	1880–81.
Offences against the person - -	4,849	4,921	4,323
„ „ property with violence	169	197	280
„ „ „ without violence	3,625	3,848	7,300
Malicious offences against property -	319	182	196
Forgery and offences against the currency	25	18	23
Other offences - - - -	8,145	8,320	8,097

Under the head of "offences against property without violence" is included "prædial larceny," for which crime 3,460 persons were brought before the courts, and 1,873 convicted.

JAMAICA.

This class of crime considerably increased in the year under review. In 1879–80 the number of convictions was 1,466 as against 1,317 in 1878–79. The severe drought following upon the cyclone of August 1880 caused a great scarcity of provisions in many parishes of the Island, and one of its consequences was the larceny of growing crops, which continued until the Island was blessed with its usual "season" rains and the crops then in the ground and afterwards planted had time to mature. Now that the effects of these causes have wholly passed away the crime has most sensibly decreased; and at the time of writing it may be said from the periodical returns transmitted to the Secretary of State to have returned to its ordinary rate, which is not so high as in some other Colonies. While on this subject it should be remarked that petty thefts of fruit, canes, &c. growing on the road side or on land scarcely protected from the stretching forth of a hand and frequently remote from the dwelling and from the surveillance of any one, come under the category of "prædial larceny," an imposing title for a crime ranking in degree with the theft of a turnip or an apple summarily punished every day in England before a bench of magistrates but here reserved for the jurisdiction of districts courts with all the formalities of an indictment and subjecting the offender to corporal punishment. It is not urged that this class of crime can be otherwise than detrimental to the productive power of the Colony if prevalent to very large extent, but it is a fact that a great hue and cry is raised over an offence which must always be more or less common in a Colony like this with large runs of unenclosed lands, lands unwatched and unenclosed securely even when cultivated; and when statistics are quoted to show how largely it has increased in any given time it does not seem to occur to any one to inquire into the amount stolen in most cases or the exceptional causes which make the theft *at the time* more noticeable, as in the case of the year under review, where drought followed hurricane and caused extreme scarcity of the people's native food.

A considerable decrease appears under the head of "offences against the person" as compared with the two preceding years; and these (4,323) consist largely (3,483) of "common assault," cutting and wounding claiming 292 cases and resistance to the authority of police constables 294.

It is much to be regretted that the crime of feloniously wounding horses and cattle is again becoming prevalent in St. Mary's parish; and this class of crime is very difficult to trace and is generally attributable to motives of revenge for some direct or indirect supposed or actual injury. In this respect being not unlike the analogous class of offences in Ireland. During the year there were in the whole Island 42 persons indicted for the offence, of whom 18 only were convicted and 2 cases remained over for adjudication.

The police appear from the Inspector-General's annual report and statistics to have discharged their duties with commendable zeal and with considerable success, and to have endeavoured to

enforce the provisions of special enactments, such as the laws against gambling, and false weights and measures.

The habitual criminals are regularly reported and are said to be, as a rule, conducting themselves well. However this may be it appears by the returns that 242 re-convictions took place during the year.

The provisions of the vaccination law have not been neglected by the constabulary, the rural police receiving a small per caput allowance for every child brought by them to the public vaccinator. In Kingston 505 children were warned and the parents (it may be presumed in many cases for fear of the vigilance thus displayed) voluntarily brought 305 to be vaccinated; 63 persons were brought before the courts in the several parishes of the Island for non-compliance with the law.

The Contagious Diseases Law has been worked, where in operation in the localities frequented by soldiers and at the naval station at Port Royal, to an apparently proper extent and with as much success as social circumstances can reasonably permit.

The water police of Kingston continue to do good service in protecting the wharves and warehouses from plunder, and also assist the customs officers in the prevention of smuggling.

Prisons.

On the 30th of September 1881 the number of prisoners in custody in all the gaols and prisons of this Island was 1,212, as compared with 1,128 prisoners at the corresponding date last year, being an increase of 84 over the number of last year and 30 over the average of the five preceding years.

The increases in the numbers of prisoners were largest among the short sentences in the district prisons of St. Catherine, Falmouth, and Montego Bay, cause by the numerous convictions for prædial larceny which occurred during the year in the districts from which these prisons receive committals.

The labour pursued in the general penitentiary is of a remunerative rather than a punitive character. There is a treadmill in daily use, but the majority of the male prisoners are employed in quarrying, stone cutting, brickmaking, lime burning, &c.

The female prisoners wash clothes for the institution and for the Royal Mail Company, and public hospital, lock hospital, &c.

The total earnings from these sources were 5,088*l.* 12*s.* 3*d.*, exclusive of a large amount of labour done for the benefit of the institution in the way of erecting separate cell within the prison, &c., and also of labour to the extent of 1,192*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.* in value given to the Imperial Government on the defence works at Rocky Point and Port Royal.

The cost of the penitentiary to the 30th September 1881 (excluding 1,466*l.* 0*s.* 5*d.* for labour charges) has been 13,809*l.* 11*s.* 8*d.* The daily average number of prisoners was 586. Gross cost of each prisoner per annum 23*l.* 11*s.* 3*d.* ·802, or 15*d.* ·495 per

JAMAICA.

diem. Net cost after deducting earnings was 17*l.* 7*s.* 8*d.* ·146 a decrease of 17*s.* 10*d.* ·037 on the previous year.

In four of the district prisons shot drill is the only penal labour enforced, and in two of these only to a limited extent. The prisoners in all the district prisons and short term prisons are employed in breaking stones, repairing roads, and sweeping streets, &c.

The gross expenditure of the gaols, district and short term prisons, to the end of the year (exclusive of 94*l.* 2*s.* 8*d.* labour charges) was 9,461*l.* 10*s.* 4*d.*, and the gross earnings 1,693*l.* 10*s.* 7*d.*

The average net cost per head per diem has been 6*d.*·678, but the variation is striking, from 9*d.*·619 in one prison to 3*d.*·085 in another. This is ascribed to peculiar local circumstances affecting each case.

In the general penitentiary the surgeon reports the mortality in 1880–81 as the highest during the last 22 years, with the exception of that in which the epidemic of pneumonia occurred. The fact has formed the subject of special inquiry.

The class of prisoners admitted was, however, very bad, 22·40 per cent. of the males and 18·25 per cent of the females were found on admission to be diseased.

Malarial fevers and bowel complaints were the most prevalent diseases.

The death rate in the prison, calculated on the daily average number in custody, was 59·72 per 1,000.

The sanitary state of all the district and short term prisons was good, except the St. Catherine district prison, in which dysentery and pneumonia prevailed to a large extent.

Vital Statistics.

The result of the census taken in April 1881 has been to show that the annual increase of population since the previous census in 1871, which was estimated to give a population in 1878 (the first year of registration) of 558,256, was a fairly correct one, as the actual increase from 1871 has been proved as 74,650, $\frac{7}{10}$ths of which added to the population of 506,154 in 1871 would return the population in 1878 as 558,409. "The base of calculation," the Registrar-General observes, "of birth and death rates in "previous reports is thus proved to have been so far correct "that it will be unnecessary to recalculate the past rates in the "light of information given by the 1881 census."

In April 1881 the decennial census of the population was taken. The total population enumerated was 580,804, including military and naval forces and merchant seamen in the several harbours and roadsteads of the Island, an increase since last census of 74,650 or 14·7. The increases have been greatest in the parishes of Manchester, St. Elizabeth, and Westmoreland, where the population has risen per cent. 24·4, 20·3, and 20·1 respectively. The parishes of St. Thomas and St. Mary have increased least, 3·8 and 8·7 respectively. The other parishes range between 10 and 17

per cent. The proportion of the sexes is about equal all over the Island in the increases.

The density of the population is about 138 persons to each square mile. As observed in the report on the census by the Registrar-General "the population of the Island is not distributed "in uniform density. The inhabitants are partly massed in "towns; about one eighth are so living; part are congregated "more widely in country villages and settlements, while on "every side there are large tracts of country but very sparsely "inhabited.'

The following is the classification of races:—

—	M.	F.	Total.	Per-centage of population.
White - - -	7,637	6,795	14,432	2·48
Coloured - - -	51,293	58,653	109,946	18·93
Black - - -	216,452	227,734	444,186	76·48
East Indian - - -	6,941	4,075	11,016	1·90
Chinese - - -	80	19	99	·02
Not stated - - -	554	571	1,125	·19
				100·00

As a matter of course the information regarding colour cannot be altogether relied upon.

The number of married persons has been returned at 107,844. It appears that there were 144,868 males of 20 years of age and upwards, and of these 53,635 or 37 per cent. were married.

Taking the females over 15 years of age it is found that they numbered 186,168, and of these 54,209 or 29·1 per cent. were married.

As regards the progress of education (although not directly connected with the heading of this paragraph, it is here introduced as arising out of a consideration of the results of the census), the following figures show favourably for the condition of the Island in 1881 as compared with it in previous census years of 1861 and 1871.

—	Attending School.	Able to read and write.	Able to read only.	Total.	Centesimal proportion of persons above 5 years of age.
1861 -	33,521	50,726	68,333	119,059	31·3
1871 -	40,610	71,074	81,398	152,472	35·0
1881 -	67,402	115,418	115,750	231,168	45·7

The number of infirm returned was as understated:—

Deaf - - - -	1,545
Dumb - - - -	328
Blind - - - -	1,116
Insane - - - -	*866

Having thus referred to the information concerning the inhabitants of the Island acquired in the taking of the census, the Registrar-General's report for the past year is reverted to.

It appears that 21,340 births and 15,125 deaths were registered during the year, being a decrease of 27 on the previous year.

The birth rate was 36·7 per 1,000 population for the whole Island. Of the several parishes St. Elizabeth yielded the highest rate (42·9) and Kingston the lowest (30·6), which was also the case in the previous year.

Illegitimate births number 12,332, representing a proportion of 57·7 per cent. of the total births. This is slightly under the returns of the two preceding years.

It is pointed out by the Registrar-General that the annual increase of population as shown in this and preceding years is not so large as the average counted on between the census of 1871 and that of 1881, but he inclines to the belief that it is mainly caused by non-registration of some births, and owing to the circumstances of the Colony, and of the people, this cannot at all events at present be overcome. The registration of deaths is believed to be pretty nearly well carried out. Taking all things into consideration the work of registration during the three years it has been in force may be regarded as satisfactory.

The rates of increase of population in the last three years were:—

1878–79.			1879–80.			1880–81.		
M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.
0·52	0·50	1·02	0·59	0·53	1·12	0·53	0·54	1·07

2,178 marriages were celebrated during the year. The rate is still exceedingly low, being for the year only 3·7 per 1,000 persons living; and the number of marriages this year shows a decrease which is attributed to the industrial and agricultural depression, so often alluded to in the course of this Blue Book Report. It may also in some measure be attributed to the emigration of labourers to foreign parts.

Marriage with civil form is not, and will never be, entertained here with any favour. There were only 16 marriages contracted

* Of these 372 were in the asylum.

in this manner during the year. To the negro mind the marriage ceremony is not of much account, unless celebrated in a church and surrounded with some amount of display, often entirely out of proportion to the position and circumstances of the parties.

19 marriages were contracted when one or other of the individuals was in "articulo mortis." Out of 2,178 marriages 999 bridegrooms and 1,456 brides signed the register by making a "mark."

15,125 deaths were registered during the year, equal to 26·0 per 1,000 of the population for the whole Island, the rate for the previous year was 27·0.

Kingston, St. Thomas, St. Andrew, and St. Catherine were above the average rate, being 38·8, 31·6, 31·2, 28·1 respectively. It would be unfair to omit to notice that there are large public institutions in Kingston and in St. Catherine which no doubt unduly swell the list. Manchester, St. Ann, and St. Elizabeth gives the best sanitary record, and they are notoriously the healthiest in the island, with gradations of climate to a high elevation above the sea.

In 9 out of the 14 parishes the heaviest mortality prevailed in the March quarter. As I observed last year the fact is not consistent with a prevalent supposition that the cool months must be the healthiest.

It is sad to find that infant mortality still remains high. The total death rate in those under five years of age was 38·6 per cent. of the year's whole death roll. I have already, in last year's report, mentioned the causes which I think induce this sad result. I must repeat that the want of skilful midwives, and neglect of children, in the early years of infancy, are the causes of the mischief.

It is often said here by persons acquainted with the subject that the ordinary diseases of children appear here in a much milder form than in Europe, and that up to a certain age they thrive much better. Even in England and Wales where the drawbacks mentioned are not present the death rate at similar periods of child-life appear very little less than it is here.

The absence of certificates of the cause of death in nearly 84 per cent. of the total deaths shows the absence of medical attendance, which has been often a subject of controversy. The Registrar-General viewing it more in the light of its effect on the statistics of his department calls serious attention to it; but a remedy is impossible, without the aid of the people themselves. As the number of medical men is limited in proportion to the number of the population, and their districts large, the absence of medical aid must in many cases be unavoidable, even though in some it is to be laid to the charge of neglect on the part of the patient or his friends.

JAMAICA.

The classification of the diseases which terminated fatally is thus given for the last three years in the Registrar-General's report:—

	1878–79.	1879–80.	1880–81.
Class I.—Zymotic - - -	27·1	40·2	39·9
Class II.—Constitutional - -	12·7	12·9	14·4
Class III.—Local - - -	20·7	21·4	23·0
Class IV.—Developmental - -	23·3	15·6	14·5
Class V.—Violence - - -	2·0	2·1	1·9
Not ascertained - - -	14·2	7·8	6·3
	100·0	100·0	100·0

In the first class there was one case (an infant) reported non-medically, and by an illiterate person, as small-pox, but it is thought highly probable that it was not so, but some other eruptive disease not contagious.

Whooping-cough, which had prevailed in 1879–80 in an epidemic form, had expended itself towards the close of the year 1881.

There was a large increase in dysentery and diarrhœa, probably due to the straits for food to which a portion of the people were put.

Only two cases of yellow fever occurred. For three years past the mortality from this disease has been—

1878–79 - - - - -	6
1879–80 - - - - -	2
1880–81 - - - - -	2

A competent authority ascribes this good result to an effective quarantine; whether this be so or not, this disease has not been known here in an epidemic form for very many years. It is hoped that the evil reputation of the Colony for this scourge will depart with the defective sanitary arrangements which fostered the disease in former years in the camps and on board H.M. ships, as well as in the humbler walks of civil life.

The majority of deaths was from fever (undistinguished), viz., 2,419 cases. Under this name is classed by the less educated any disease which is attended by fever. Of course there are other cases of true country fever, which is very prevalent in some marshy districts. All these cases, with a few exceptions, were not medically certified, and no further explanation can be obtained.

Phthisis or pulmonary consumption was, as in the previous years, a very fruitful cause of death, 1,071 cases occurred in 1880–81.

The habits of the people and their natural want of stamina (induced perhaps by their diet) contribute entirely to the existence of this disease to any extent. On the contrary, this Island is very highly recommended by medical men as a health resort for patients with pulmonary complaints in the earlier stages of disease.

Vaccination appears to have been carried out even in excess of the birth rate during the year, and the returns must, as the Registrar-General suggests, include the arrearages of previous years. A great aid in the work is a quarterly return of births made by the registrar to the medical officers of their respective districts.

General.

The course of trade has been dull, but towards the close of the year signs of improvement were manifest. A protracted drought following on the cyclone of August 1880 impoverished the peasantry in many districts of the Island, and left them in some cases scarcely enough for the necessaries of life. There can be no doubt that many were reduced to great straits. In consequence of the drought many estates curtailed their cultivation, and consequently the demand for labour was much restricted.

The parochial authorities were compelled to endeavour with the aid of the Government to furnish such employment as they had it in their power to afford.

An exodus has taken place during the year, and still continues, of labourers who go to Colon and the Panama Canal works, and to other places on the South American continent.

These people are allured by the promise of a large money wage, "a dollar a day," as is temptingly set forth in posters about the streets, but from some of those who have been induced to leave Jamaica the accounts of their experiences are very disappointing, and should suggest to others that the peasantry of this Colony are upon the whole much better off at home than in places where they lie at the mercy of their employers, denied in many cases the enforcement of their just rights, and left when ill to die in the streets of the town, as often happens at Colon. Nor does this state of things affect the labour only, for this Government is put to large expenses for the relief, burial, or return to the Colony of any native whose case comes before the British consular authorities. And, moreover, many of those who return are so broken down by Chagres fever and other disorders that they become a burden upon the community and the poor rates. At the same time it seems beyond question that many not specially robust and exceptionally strong labourers do return with savings and very favourable accounts of their fortunes which keep up the temptation to emigrate, and do themselves return to the Isthmus after having had ample opportunity for testing the disadvantages of the proceeding. The emigration continues and is likely to increase so long as sufficient demand does not exist within the Colony at remunerative rates for the labour supply, notwithstanding that the contractors for the railway works afford employment for more than 3,000.

A contract was entered into in December 1880 with the Atlas Steam Ship Company for running a steamer from port to port round the Island. The service was commenced in March following as a weekly service on a fixed itinerary, but this has subsequently been altered to a ten-nightly service on a representation to the

JAMAICA.

Company that it would be more convenient to passengers and shippers. The establishment of this means of communication between the principal city of the Colony and the several outports has proved commercially and socially a great success, while for purposes of Government it cannot be over-valued.

It is now matter for surprise that in all these years since steam ship service has become so universal the absence of this means of easy transport and travel should have been patiently suffered.

Easy means of internal communication have always been a want in this Colony, and perhaps from the configuration of the Island will always remain so in some parts to a more or less limited degree. Good main roads have existed for at least a quarter of a century, but the difficulty of moving about with celerity and cheapness has always been a bar to progress, social and material.

It is only since 1845 that a line of railway connecting the towns of Spanish Town and Kingstown, a distance of 14 miles, was laid, and 24 years elapsed before a short extension to the village of Old Harbor followed.

In 1878 it occurred to a gentleman of capital that a mail coach would pay if run from Old Harbor to the pleasant and prosperous interior town of Mandeville in the south centre of the Island. Under the auspices of the Post Office, which subsidized it for mail conveyance, a coach was started in November 1878 to run three times a week between the places mentioned, carrying passengers and mails. It is now well established, and in the past year the Post Office Department collected and credited to the contractor 500*l.* 9*s.* for passengers' fares and freight on parcels, of course exclusive of mail bags.

This success has induced another contractor to start a mail coach from another point on the line, and run from Spanish Town to Saint Ann's Bay in the north centre of the Island. This coach has not been running long, but has proved highly convenient, and it is presumed pecuniarily successful.

A reference to these small services is introduced mainly to show that the want of quick means of transit is recognized, and that when provided it is readily used. As a matter of course the railway extensions now being constructed will run this means of conveyance "off the line," but the coaches are not the less useful at the present time, and it is to be hoped that they will, so to speak, move forward with the railway, and later on will tap a length of country beyond the termini of the railway extensions.

The time may come, it is earnestly to be hoped that it will soon come, when the coaches will be of no further use as continuations of the main line of railroad, but many years must elapse before their aid can be dispensed with in this respect, and then there can be little doubt that a function will be found for them as feeders to the railway at different points from different rural districts and the several towns of the Island.

The public library continues to be widely appreciated, and a considerable increase has taken place in the number of volumes lent out. There are three branches in operation, at Spanish Town,

Falmouth, and Savanna-la-Mar. These centres will aid in diffusing a taste for pure literature throughout the Colony. In past years there has been a lack of means in obtaining books of current literature outside the city of Kingston, and books or periodicals of any standard value were never met with except in the houses of some of the better educated and well off gentry.

The museum attached to the public library is being put in order, and a detailed, and as far as possible a descriptive, catalogue of its contents is being prepared.

A measure of social progress has been started in the shape of penny banks, which were instituted in January 1881 in order to encourage thrift and saving habits among the people, and to give an opportunity to those not able to use the Government Savings Banks in consequence of the distance from their homes of a branch or sub-branch, as well as to enable a smaller deposit to be received than that allowed by the Government Savings Bank, which is limited to one shilling or a multiple of that amount.

These banks are undertaken free of charge by responsible persons, to whom the necessary forms and books required are issued free of cost. It is, however, publicly notified that in thus acting towards these banks the Government have no control over and will not undertake any responsibility in connexion with them, and will only deal with each such bank as a single individual depositor in the Government Savings Bank.

The result of the movement shows that up to the 30th of September 1881 53 penny banks had been opened in 12 out of the 14 parishes of the Island, having 4,545 depositors with 911*l.* 0*s.* 0½*d.* to credit, and only 84*l.* 11*s.* 5½*d.* was withdrawn, while 19 depositors transferred their accounts to the Government Savings Bank.

The issue of a small pamphlet on "Thrift" by the treasurer of the Colony, who has taken a great personal interest in starting these banks, and by his energy has materially advanced the movement, seems to have been of much value to the cause it is designed to foster. Ministers of religion and other influential persons have aided and encouraged the design.

It may be remarked, however, that want of thrift is not one of the failings of the negro. He is rather inclined to hoard, and the real difficulty has been to get the savings from a hole in the ground or from under the thatch into a secure place of deposit. Confidence is now established in the Government Savings Bank, and the proof of the thrift of the country is visible in the amount of the savings of the peasant class now lodged in that institution.

In the working of the Post Office Department there may be noticed a progressive step in the way of a convention which has been concluded between the United States and Jamaica, approved by the Secretary of State and confirmed by the President, for the exchange of money orders between the two places.

This was a much needed medium for the remittance of small sums to and fro. A similar proposal made to Canada is still under consideration.

JAMAICA.

It has often been mentioned in the Blue Book returns that with the exception of sugar and rum there were no manufactures here. To these, besides tobacco which has been referred to under the head of agriculture, must now be added the manufacture of soap.

Two soap factories have been at work in Kingston turning out large quantities of the article, so much so as materially to affect the import from abroad, and a third factory is being established at Montego Bay on the north side of the Island.

As a sign of progress in the metropolis of Jamaica, which would be insignificant in a more energetic community, it may be observed that a handsome iron grand stand has been erected on the Kingston race course by a number of gentlemen interested in racing, who have contributed to its cost by taking part in the speculation as a limited liability company. The structure would be creditable to any Colony, and it has heped to establish, what in many respects appears to have been thought impossible in Jamaica, that not only is improvement in small things practicable, but that the improvements may even be made to pay for themselves, and are in the end far more economical than the old happy-go-lucky arrangement.

The first Horticultural Exhibition that has ever taken place in this Colony, blessed in most parts with a genial climate and fruitful soil, was held in July 1881 in Kingston. It has been followed by another this year, and there seems no reason to doubt that these shows will be held every year in future. It would be out of place to mention how much good these social gatherings will do in a society such as exists in this Colony, or to say anything of the other beneficial influences which these exhibitions produce upon the minds and manners of the people.

The sanitary condition of the Island during the year will best be judged of by the following extract from the annual report of Dr. Pringle, Acting Superintending Medical Officer. "The "sanitary condition of the Island during the year has been good, "when compared with that of surrounding Colonies in much "the same latitude, and under similar influences, whose hygienic "and sanitary arrangements are, according to repute at least, as "advanced and complete as here, the absence of any endemic or "epidemic disease is a matter for special congratulation. Under "such circumstances it is not unreasonable to inquire why such "a remarkable immunity from dangerous epidemics should so "generally obtain in Jamaica. This fortunate, if not generally "admitted immunity from epidemics originating in the Island as "well as the usually good intrinsic state of public health, must "be attributed to a combination of conditions, but mainly to the "climate and physical conformation of the Island. These natural "conditions which went far in obtaining for Jamaica its designa-"tion of 'Isle of Springs' might as deservedly have adorned it "with the equally significant cognomen of Isle of Climates, as "within similar limits no country can possess a greater or more "gradual diversity of climate than does Jamaica. It is true that

" the exigencies of existence compel a large majority of our " spare population to live on the more unhealthy plains, and thus " record a corresponding high mortality; but, if it were possible " to obtain the death rate of the inhabitants of the middle and " higher elevations apart from those living on the plains, it would " readily be seen, making due allowance for preventable deaths " resulting from the characteristic apathy and unconcern of the " native in securing timely and skilled medical assistance, how " healthy the highlands of Jamaica are, and at once determine " and establish its claim, not only as a pleasant and desirable " home, but as a valuable health resort. In remarking on the " natural advantages of the Island in a sanitary point of view, " the general absence of dangerous epidemics and the satisfactory " state of public health during the year, due importance must be " attached to the fact that sanitary legislation slowly but steadily " progresses."

The condition of public peace which has become the normal characteristic of the Colony was undisturbed during the year, even during a perod of unusual drought and distress, which in many places would have led to turbulence and riot.

(Signed) A. MUSGRAVE.

King's House, Jamaica,
10th September 1882.

British Honduras.

BRITISH HONDURAS.

No. 3.

Lieutenant-Governor Barlee, C.M.G., to the Right Hon. the Earl of Kimberley.

Government House, Belize,
March 16, 1882.

My Lord,

I have the honour to forward, for your Lordship's information, the "Blue Book" of this Colony for the year 1881, and it is to me a great satisfaction to be able to state that there has been during the past year a continuance of that improvement in trade and commerce and in the general prosperity of the Colony which it was my pleasure to report as regards the year 1880.

Indian affairs.

2. A continuance of the same friendly intercourse with the Indians on the frontier line has been maintained. There has not been during the last year one question of an unpleasant nature. They have been encouraged to visit with and trade in the Colony, and have done so, under rules strictly laid down, from which they have not attempted to deviate. Well aware as I am that questions may arise at any moment which, for want of a little tact or management, may cause trouble, I have endeavoured to, and in a measure succeeded in ensuring a thorough dependence on the good faith and good offices to be observed on either side, so that if any contretemps arises, it will probably be quickly settled in a friendly spirit. At the same time, I have relaxed no precautions against surprise, and of this the Indians are well aware. They are moreover mainly dependent for supplies from this Colony, and I believe they will not, in the absence of outside influence, give trouble. The feeling as to uneasiness on the subject of "Indian raids," so prevalent when I assumed the administration of the Colony, may perhaps be fairly shown by my quoting the concluding words of the annual report for 1881 of the Magistrate of the North District, who says, "Indian troubles "and rumours appear to be things of the past, and the feeling "of uneasiness which existed in the district in former years has "now almost if not entirely disappeared."

Revenue.

3. The estimated revenue for 1881 was 33,754*l.* The actual revenue was 43,642*l.* This amount is in excess of any previous year since 1874 and has not been aided by any extraneous source or by the realisation as in former years of sums previously invested. The revenue of 1874, which slightly exceeded that of 1881, was collected under a far higher tariff than at present prevails. The customs revenue exceeded the estimate by 5,296*l.*, the excise by 2,705*l.*, and the land revenue by 680*l.*

Expenditure.

4. The estimated expenditure for 1881 was 33,736*l.* A supplementary estimate of 8,358*l.* was passed in July 1881, making the total estimate 42,094*l.* The actual expenditure was 40,712*l.*

There was a credit balance in the Colonial Treasury on 31st December 1881 of 8,645*l.* The expenditure of 1881 included 5,000*l.* military contribution, 500*l.* the cost of taking a census of the population, the erection of vats to store 100,000 gallons of water, and other services not of annual recurrence.

Public Debt.

5. With the exception of the amount payable to the Imperial Treasury for military services, the Colony is free from all indebtedness.

Imports and exports.

6. The value of the imports and exports for 1881 may best be shown by the following statement, which embraces a period of five years and shows the progress of the trade of the Colony with the mother country and the United States.

—	1877.	1878.	1879.	1880.	1881.
	£	£	£	£	£
Total imports - -	167,222	191,491	159,883	237,204	201,811
Imports from United Kingdom - -	84,540	110,798	79,284	122,864	109,552
Imports from United States - - -	69,977	70,044	59,734	66,212	81,652
Total exports - -	124,503	131,107	187,673	252,855	247,403
Exports to United Kingdom - - -	94,548	94,412	117,896	117,288	137,510
Exports to United States	24,228	31,994	45,635	57,469	53,659

The differences in amount between the total imports and exports and those relating to the United Kingdom and the United States may generally be assumed as goods in transit.

Fruit Trade.

7. In 1880 an endeavour was made to commence a fruit trade with the United States, this has induced the purchase of a considerable amount of land for the purpose, and there is now no doubt that this trade will be large and profitable. The export of fruit in 1881 exceeds that of 1880 in a small degree. That of 1882 and following years should show a very large increase.

The principal exports of fruit in 1880 and 1881 were as follows:—

—		1880.	1881.
Bananas - - - -	Bunches	8,958	22,229
Cocoa nuts - - -	No.	1,623,631	1,421,817
Pine apples - - -	„	800	2,124
Plantains - - - -	„	177,000	323,700

Other cultivation.

8. Cultivation in other directions is rapidly increasing. The coffee plantation started in the Western District may be considered

BRITISH HONDURAS.

as fairly established and to promise a successful result; 1,400 trees already bear fruit; 5,000 yield their first crop this year; 40,000 trees are planted out, and will bear in 1883, and 40,000 more are ready to be planted out and should yield a crop in 1884. The young trees are reported to be healthy and the soil and climate well suited for coffee cultivation.

A German settlement has commenced on a block of land to the southward of Belize on which some six or seven men, the pioneers of a party of 150, are already settled and making preparations for those who are to follow. They have erected houses and commenced cultivation and express themselves as satisfied with their location and prospects.

Several families from the state of Texas have settled down on land in the Western District; they speak in high terms of the soil on which they are located and it seems probable they will shortly be followed by others. With the characteristic energy of Americans, they have already pointed out the necessity that the road from Belize to the Western Boundary should be available for wheel traffic and made an offer to undertake the work at a reasonable rate.

Newspapers.

9. As a mark of the onward progress of the Colony, I may mention that two newspapers have been published in Belize, one more or less advocating the interests of the mercantile community (European), and the other those of the actual inhabitants of the Colony, interests that ought to be, but are not altogether identical.

oast steamers.

10. One great want which has long been felt is at last about to be supplied in the shape of coasting steamers of light draught of water to ply from port to port of the Colony and convey goods and passengers up the various rivers where settlements have been formed. A contract has been entered into for a suitable vessel for this service, to arrive in the course of a few weeks, and a second steamer is being constructed in the Colony. The long anticipated cable communication will, it seems probable, become a reality within a few months.

Census.

11. A census of the population of the Colony was taken on the 3rd April 1881, and resulted in showing a population of 27,452, of which 14,108 were males and 13,344 females. The number of Europeans and other white people was 375.

Mail service.

12. A most beneficial change has been made in the mail service during the past year by which a mail to and from England is received once a fortnight in 18 days. The additional cost has been trifling and does not exceed that paid for a mail service once a month to and from Jamaica. It is not difficult to foresee that the increasing traffic to and from New Orleans and Belize will shortly result in a weekly mail, at a cost little if any in excess of that now paid for a mail once a fortnight.

Shipping.

13. The returns of tonnage entered and cleared during the year demonstrates that while steam traffic is gradually increasing, the number of sailing vessels has not decreased, thus :—

	1880.	1881.
	Tons.	Tons.
Sailing vessels entered - - -	274 = 23,943	309 = 24,756
Do. cleared - - -	273 = 25,663	297 = 23,444
Steamers entered - - - -	69 = 49,362	78 = 50,056
Do. cleared - - - -	65 = 45,402	79 = 50,279

Sale and lease of land.

14. Two thousand six hundred and thirty-eight acres of rural land were sold during 1881 as compared with 1,436 acres in 1880, and at the end of 1881 there were 3,090 acres of land leased for agricultural purposes. The major portion of this land has been taken up by persons interested in the cultivation of fruit and other products.

Public Works.

15. No new public works of any magnitude have been undertaken during 1881. The total expenditure has been less by 3,000*l.* than in 1880 when the new public buildings were completed. The expenditure on roads has been nearly the same as in the preceding year. The main road to the Western District has been completed by the construction of a bridge three quarters of a mile long over a hitherto impassable swamp. This bridge is now open for general traffic, and it forms part of the road which the settlers from Texas are desirous to make available for wheel traffic.

Labour.

16. The question of labour supply is one creating some interest at the present time. Estate owners and cultivators of sugar desired to introduce Coolies direct from India, but a calm consideration of the regulations to be observed and the cost entailed thereby induced them to withdraw from the application they had made in this respect. Many time-expired Coolies have been imported from Jamaica, and are comfortably located in this Colony, well satisfied with the pay and treatment they have received. The price that labour realises here should, with little trouble, induce the advent of labourers from Jamaica and other West India Islands, the Mosquito Coast, or the United States.

Health.

17. There has been no epidemic during the year in any part of the Colony. Illness among the European population has been confined to the usual intermittent and bilious fevers, which, as a rule, are of a mild description. Yellow fever has not shown itself during my administration of five years, save in the cases of two seamen landed from a vessel from St. Thomas', and the precautions then adopted prevented any spread of the disease.

BRITISH HONDURAS.

No epidemic has invaded the Colony since 1867, when cholera prevailed among the coloured population, and in 1869 when a few cases of yellow fever occurred among the European population.

The following figures show the number of patients admitted into the Public Hospital at Belize during the year 1880 and 1881. This hospital not only receives sick persons from all parts of the Colony, but is seldom without patients from the Central American Republics, who resort to Belize in case of illness :—

	1880.	1881.
Daily average of patients - - -	9	14
Number admitted - - - -	200	237
Deaths - - - - -	21	24

Lunatic Asylum.

18. The condition of the patients has been much improved since they have inhabited the new Lunatic Asylum, where every comfort is provided and ample care bestowed on them. Physical restraint is not required or permitted, and no means of restraint are available beyond a padded room. No deaths occurred during the year; three patients were admitted, and the daily average of patients was 16 as compared with 14 in 1880.

Crime.

19. There were 39 prisoners convicted by the Supreme Court, in 1881 and 35 in 1880, and there were 1,340 summary convictions in 1881, being an increase of 229 over the number in 1880. There was no capital case, and indeed no crime other than of an ordinary character. The average daily number of prisoners in the principal gaol at Belize has been 74. During the year, 106 prison offences were committed; most of them of a trivial nature; of these offenders 23 were punished by the gaoler by confinement on bread and water for periods not exceeding 24 hours; 81 were punished by a visiting magistrate with extra hard labour for one or two hours a day for periods of from three to ten days; 2 were flogged for brutal conduct and assulting prison officers, 12 lashes in each case. Four prisoners escaped from working parties during the year, three were captured within a day or two, the fourth is still at large, and believed to be outside the bounds of the Colony. Only one death occurred in the gaol during 1881. Of the 201 prisoners who were in the gaol during the year, 148 committed no breach of any prison rule, and only 53 were punished; of these 28 were punished once, 16 twice, 3 three times, 1 four times, 1 five, 2 seven, and 1 eight times.

The management and discipline of this gaol have been favourably commented on by visitors from the United States and elsewhere well qualified to express an opinion on the subject.

ducation.

20. The schools receiving aid from public funds were increased from 16 in 1880 to 22 in 1881, and the number of scholars from

1,804 to 1,954. The cost of education per head was 1*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.* in 1880, and 1*l.* 0*s.* 8*d.* in 1881. Fresh schools are about to be opened in various parts of the Colony, and the number of scholars will probably increase in greater proportion. The excellent arrangements made by the Rev. J. Jackson, Inspector of Schools, in connexion with the work in the several schools, and the methodical manner in which he has conducted the annual examinations, have greatly furthered the success of this most important Colonial work.

Volunteers

21. The volunteer forces at Belize and Corosal have steadily progressed. During the current year many of them will become entitled to grants of land of 25 acres. A "camp" was formed at Corosal and maintained with great success for a fortnight in September last, and a similar movement is contemplated by the Belize volunteers this year.

Corosal district.

22. My remarks hitherto have applied to the Colony as a whole. It may be well to show the progress of a district in 1881 as well as of the Colony generally. The portion of the Northern District under the charge of the magistrate at Corosal contains about 7,000 inhabitants, of whom only 37 are Europeans. The rest are for the most part Spaniards, Yucatécans, Indians, or Creoles of the Colony, The local revenue of this district amounted to 4,000*l.*, and the local expenditure to 3,000*l.* This expenditure included the cost entailed by a volunteer camp and the erection of a powder magazine at a cost of 500*l.* inside the walls of the fort at Corosal. 55,996 gallons of rum were made in this district during 1881 as against 53,616 in 1880. The production of sugar increased from 896 to 1,012 tons. The cultivation of fruit has commenced and will rapidly increase now that steam communication with Belize will be available; the land in this district is well suited to the cultivation of fruit. The trade between Corosal and Bacalar and other towns in the territory occupied by the Santa Cruz Indians, hitherto carried on by Yucatécans and Indian Residents, has of late been almost monopolised by the Chinese, who were introduced to the Colony in small numbers some years ago. They at once fraternised with the Indians, seemed to have little difficulty in understanding their language, and soon became almost naturalised among them, giving currency to the theory that centuries ago there was communication between the eastern and western cities of the world. The similitude in face and figure between the Chinese and Indians is very curious. These Chinese with their usual aptitude for trade have established themselves in various parts of the Santa Cruz territory, and by a regular system of communication between their different stations there and in this Colony are able to supply the Indians in their own territory with the articles they need at Corosal prices. The importation from the Indian territory of pigs, hammocks, straw hats, and other articles has almost entirely passed into the hands of the Chinese, who, in place of making Corosal the emporium as hitherto, convey them direct to where the best prices can be obtained, as they receive advices from

BRITISH HONDURAS.

their friends in the Colony. This is the case even with the supply of powder to the Indians. The powder magazine lately erected at Corosal, which ought to return a good interest on its outlay, and would have done so two or three years ago, has been made little use of by traders. The powder is received on arrival at Belize and conveyed by vessels direct to its destination beyond the Colony, and thus all cost of storage is avoided

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. (Signed) FRED. P. BARLEE,
The Earl of Kimberley, Lieutenant-Governor.
&c. &c.

TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS.

TURKS ISLANDS.

No. 4.

Governor Sir A. MUSGRAVE, K.C.M.G., to the Right Hon. the EARL OF KIMBERLEY.

King's House, Jamaica,
March 27, 1882.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith to your Lordship the Commissioner's report with the Blue Book of the Turks and Caicos Islands for the year 1881.

The results of the year's public transactions reflect credit upon the administration of the Commissioner and show improvement in the circumstances of the Settlement. The downward fluctuation in the price of salt is to some extent accidental, and not necessarily a permanent fall in value.

In Legislation the most important work, as the Commissioner observes, was the Truck Ordinance.

I am not greatly surprised that the recently established mail service under the contract with the Atlas Company should up to this time have been unpopular, as circumstances which I know not to have been within the control of the Company have greatly deranged the service of their main line, upon which the regularity of that of the branches entirely depends, but I think that before long beter arrangements will be made. Motives, not always deserving of much respect, induce some of the residents in the Settlement, no doubt, to prefer the former less costly but most unsatisfactory manner of communication with the chief seat of government, and I am not sure that the Commissioner himself attaches the same importance that I do to frequent and fairly

regular opportunities for comparatively direct communication between the seat of government in Jamaica and the Dependency. I, however, am disposed to think that the importance can scarcely be overrated of the quicker and more frequent intercourse between Jamaica and the Settlement which I hope to see established.

The affairs of the public bank to which Mr. Llewelyn adverts in his 33rd paragraph have been under consideration for some time, and during my recent visit I assented to an Ordinance to give greater facilities for winding them up. When transmitting that measure to your Lordship the circumstances of the case shall be fully explained.

In conclusion, I have only to observe that I scarcely concur with the Commissioner in inference that the prospects for the ensuing year are not encouraging, because, after having shipped the amount of full average annual production, the salt rakers yet retained on hand 1,000,000 bushels of salt against 700,000 at the same period in the previous year. If the high prices of a year or two ago had been lately maintained, the prosperity of this last year would have been greatly above the average for more than 30 years back.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. (Signed) A. MUSGRAVE.
The Earl of Kimberley,
&c. &c.

REPORT on the BLUE BOOK of the TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS for the year 1881.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The total revenue collected during the year amounted to 7,559*l.* 9*s.* 4*d.*, and the expenditure to 6,498*l.* 16*s.* 4*d.*, giving an excess of revenue of 1,060*l.* 13*s.*, which, added to the surplus of 832*l.* 14*s.* 6*d.* left from the previous year, made the total surplus on the 31st December 1,893*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.*

2. The average receipts between the years 1874–8 from the principal sources of revenue yielded 6,306*l.* 3*s.* 7*d.*, whilst the same heads of receipt in the year 1881, with no increase of taxation, but a decrease of royalty on salt equivalent on the quantity shipped during the year to 150*l.*, and a reduction of postal rates on joining the Postal Union of 75 per cent., have brought in 6,737*l.* 14*s.* 6*d.*, being 431*l.* 10*s.* 11*d.* in excess of the average.

3. The average expenditure during the years 1874–8 on the principal regular services amounted to 6,267*l.* 12*s.* 8*d.* per annum, whilst the same services in 1881 cost 5,686*l.* 8*s.* 6*d.*, or 581*l.* 4*s.* 2*d.* less.

TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS

Imports and Exports.

4. The following comparative tables of exports and imports, &c. show the trade transactions for the year:—

VALUE of EXPORTS of DOMESTIC PRODUCE and MANUFACTURES in the years 1879, 1880, and 1881.

Articles.	1879.	1880.	1881.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Salt - - - -	14,030 9 7	20,155 14 11	22,908 10 2
Cave earth - - -	1,943 19 8	2,952 0 6	697 13 0
Sponge - - -	—	—	429 15 11
Straw, brazilletto, &c. -	641 9 0	1,645 7 10	280 0 0
Totals - -	16,615 18 3	24,753 3 3	24,315 19 1

VALUE of IMPORTS for the years 1879, 1880, and 1881.

—	1879.	1880.	1881.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Imports - - -	21,938 19 8	24,729 2 5	27,054 4 6

QUANTITY of SALT exported from each Port for the years 1879, 1880, and 1881.

Ports.	1879.	1880.	1881.
Grand Turk - -	102,116	452,599	593,626
Salt Cay - - -	165,536	192,817	478,660
Cockburn Harbour -	328,836	289,990	358,610
Total bushels -	596,488	935,406	1,430,896

Salt in the Colony on 31st December 1878 - 85,000 bushels.
" " " 1879 - 1,500 "
" " " 1880 - 700,000 "
" " " 1881 - 1,000,000 "

RAINFALL at GRAND TURK, SALT CAY, and COCKBURN HARBOUR for each month of the year 1881.

Months.	Grand Turk.	Salt Cay.	Cockburn Harbour.
January	·77	·80	·43
February	·90	2·26	1·68
March	nil	·19	·05
April	·70	·49	·60
May	4·32	1·79	4·19
June	1·11	·92	2·64
July	·86	·46	·39
August	2·68	2·06	1·39
September	1·60	3·52	2·31
October	3·48	6·00	6·67
November	4·23	5·48	4·98
December	1·81	2·23	1·91
Total	22·46	26·20	27·24

RETURN of the NUMBER and CLASS of VESSELS that passed the LIGHT-HOUSE at GRAND TURK by daylight in 1881.

War Vessels.	Steamers.	Ships.	Barques.	Barkantines.	Brigs.	Brigantines.	Three-masted Schooners.	Schooners.	Total.
4	27	2	49	19	7	187	45	137	477

SCHEDULE of RECEIPTS and EXPENDITURE of the PUBLIC REVENUE for the year 1881, in comparison with the preceding year 1880.

Imports.	1880.			1881.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Alcohol	6	4	0	10	12	0
Ale, porter, cider, &c.	12	18	7	23	8	1
Bay water	6	10	6	14	5	0
Beans and peas	10	19	8	8	11	6
Bread	40	11	9	27	13	4
Butter	51	6	9	70	12	2
Candles	6	8	9	8	11	10
Cattle and Calves	12	13	9	3	15	0
Cheese	20	1	3	16	13	7
Chocolate	5	2	9	6	0	0
Cigars	2	12	6	7	18	0
Cocoa	0	9	8	0	2	10
Coffee	18	0	11	12	17	10
Cordage	8	17	3	4	11	6
Cordials	1	2	6	1	17	6
Corn	14	0	8	12	7	0
Fish, dried and pickled	29	19	0	64	18	7
Flour, wheat	504	19	8	489	13	2
Flour, rye, and corn meal	82	11	6	57	6	9
Horses	26	0	0	6	0	0

Imports.	1880. £	s.	d.	1881. £	s.	d.
Lard	103	19	11	53	0	5
Lumber and Shingles	82	6	11	69	15	6
Meat, salted and cured	156	6	11	231	14	8
Molasses, syrup, and honey	72	2	9	61	3	10
Oils	213	10	10	33	14	3
Paint in oil	8	2	3	10	4	2
Pitch, tar and rosin	1	12	0	2	16	0
Raisins, currants, and figs	4	14	7	5	1	5
Rice	52	8	8	69	0	4
Rum, brandy, gin, &c.	468	6	8	701	4	4
Sheep and goats	0	9	0	1	4	0
Soap	54	17	1	32	18	2
Spirits, turpentine	0	8	5	1	0	6
Sugar	173	2	8	238	10	7
Twine	0	6	4	2	3	8
Tea	14	6	1	17	6	2
Tobacco	40	15	4	43	0	7
Wine	38	4	1	19	3	8
Ad valorem duties	782	11	5	876	4	1
	3,130	3	4	3,317	2	0
Other Sources of Revenue.						
Royalty of 10 per cent. ad valorem on salt exported: in 1880—935,406 bushels; in 1881—1,430,896 bushels	1,461	14	8	2,235	17	11
Ditto on cave earth—Guano	164	0	0	37	16	0
Light duties	510	2	0	657	15	8
Auction duties	83	14	10	91	12	11
Fines from Supreme and Police Courts	55	13	6	88	18	3
Fees of office	135	18	9	106	19	3
Postage	71	11	6	88	19	0
Post Office Money Order commissions	10	14	7	5	14	7
Liquor licenses	75	0	0	75	0	0
Wine „	58	0	0	58	0	0
Dog Tax	14	13	6	17	9	6
Sales Crown land	10	0	10	3	3	6
Lease „ „	34	2	0	41	7	1
Public bank—profits from 1st July 1880 to 30th June 1881	72	0	1	59	7	6
Receipts from Imperial Post Office	300	0	0	300	0	0
Refund of loan to Salt Pond Proprietors	60	10	2	62	4	9
Wharfage and storage	96	15	10	64	11	8
Fees of Receiver of Wreck		—		58	16	1
Miscellaneous—Sales Government property, &c.	67	6	10	157	8	8
Special	428	7	10	31	5	0
	3,710	6	11	4,242	7	4
Recapitulation.						
Imports	3,130	3	4	3,317	2	0
Other sources	3,710	6	11	4,242	7	4
	6,840	10	3	7,559	9	4
Balance from 1879 and 1880	244	9	8	832	14	6
	7,084	19	11	8,392	3	10
Expenditure for 1880 and 1881	6,252	5	5	6,498	16	4
Balance for 1880 and 1881	832	14	6	1,893	7	6

6. The duty collected on spirits was 160*l.*, and on ad valorem goods also 160*l.*, above the average, but the other items are all much as usual.

7. It will be observed that the quantity of salt exported was nearly one million and a half bushels, which has hitherto been considered the average, but I am doubtful if such will be the figure for the future, as the competition of the Mediterranean salt trade, the high protective duty in the United States, and the growing scarcity of sailing vessels, with the increase of steamers in the West Indies, are telling one and all on the export trade of the Settlement. There is, however, a hope that the fisheries of British North America will become larger customers for Turks Islands salt, and the increasing trade seems to justify this hope. In 1876 and 1877 about 12½ per cent. of the total shipments of salt went to the Dominion of Canada, whilst the average for the four years 1878–81 gives about 22 per cent., which is a decided and marked increase.

8. The imports are nearly all in food supplies from the United States brought by an American steamer calling here regularly from New York on her way to Hayti, but I believe if a similar steam communication was established with Halifax a great deal of the food supplies which must be imported would come from the Dominion, and commercial relations thus established, which would cause more salt to be shipped there, for it is an undisputed fact that Turks Islands salt is superior to any other for curing fish.

9. The export of sponge does not increase as it ought with the fine extensive Caicos Bank open to any industrious man, and most of the sponge exported is collected by spongers from Nassau (in the Bahama Government) who find it pays them to come some 300 miles from home in their own boats to fish the Caicos Bank, which the natives residing on the spot are too indolent to do.

10. The caves of Guano hitherto worked are exhausted, but it is believed that fresh ones have been discovered on another cay which will shortly be tried.

Public Works.

11. The new public works carried out during the year included the construction of one hundred feet of sea wall at Grand Turk, at a cost of 100*l.*, and of which wall only about 160 feet more is now left to be built, which I hope will be completed this year. The rest of the vote was spent on rebuilding a wooden bridge on one of the main thoroughfares of the town; renewing the tank at the gaol; in blowing up some shoals at Cockburn Harbour, which has widened the entrance there by 400 feet; and 100*l.* spent on repairing roads, with the several casual repairs to buildings, tanks, and wells, &c.

Legislation.

TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS.

12. Five Ordinances were passed during the year, the most important being the "Truck Ordinance." The system of paying labourers in goods had grown and increased to such an extent that it was necessary for a law to be passed to specifically make it illegal.

13. It is too early to say whether the benefits expected from the prohibition of the abused old system will be realized, although I believe they will, but at any rate the dire forebodings of the employers as to the fate of the labourers if the law were passed have not occurred, and matters will gradually mend as time goes on.

Civil Establishment.

14. No changes occurred during the year in the civil list of public officers but an order of the Privy Council of Jamaica, dated the 16th November, gave legal effect to the numerous reductions that had been recently made. Jeremiah Dennis Murphy and Alexis Wynns Harriott were appointed to the two vacant unofficial seats at the Legislative Board.

Pensions.

15. The list of pensioners remained the same throughout the year, and the full amount of 667*l.* 10*s.* 0*d.* was scheduled for payment.

Consuls.

16. Mr. George J. Gibbs has been nominated and recognised provisionally as Vice-Consul for the kingdom of Spain within these Islands.

Ecclesiastical.

17. The church has been disestablished for eight years, but there are now residing here a minister of the Established Church of England, a Wesleyan and a Baptist minister, all three supported by voluntary contributions.

Population.

18. The census taken within these Islands on the 4th of April gave the following totals:—

Males - - - -	2,278
Females - - - -	2,500
Total - - -	4,778

including 46 seamen belonging to foreign vessels in port at the time, so that the actual population proper belonging to these Islands was 4,732, or only an increase of nine within the last decade.

19. The average annual birth rate is 36 per 1,000 and the death rate only 23, which should have given an increase of about 700 persons in 10 years.

20. Prior to the disastrous hurricane of 1866 the population had steadily increased in about that proportion from 3,250 persons in 1850 to, approximately, 4,600 in 1866, but since that calamity emigration to the neighbouring Islands, especially San Domingo, has taken all the increase of population away, and the total number remains about what it was 15 years ago when that storm occurred.

21. The number of births in the year, was 162.

22. The number of deaths 113, which is below the average number of births, and also a higher death rate.

Postal and Mail Services.

23. These Islands joined the Postal Union on the 1st of January, and a large increase in the number of letters passing through the post office shows that the benefit of cheap postage is appreciated.

24. During the early part of the year the steamers belonging to Mr. Cunard, which now regularly run every four weeks between Halifax, Bermuda, and Jamaica, touched here on their way south, and it was hoped they would also call on the way north. But owing to some dread of the danger to vessels approaching from the south without a lighthouse on Sand Cay, which would have to be a costly construction, Mr. Cunard declined to allow his steamer to call on the way north, and so the Governor of Jamaica agreed with the Atlas Steamship Company to run a small steamer between Grand Turk and Fortune Island to connect there with their main line of steamers running between New York and Jamaica for 1,000*l.* per annum.

25. The service has now been on trial for three months, but it is not at all popular with the people, as it is considered too costly for the resources of the Settlement to pay such a sum for carrying mails, without commensurate trade benefits, and it is hoped some better arrangements will be made.

Agriculture.

26. The Inhabitants of these Islands have hitherto looked solely to the one staple product of salt for a livelihood, and have never been brought up to realise that any profit could be got from the land on which they live as well as the sea that surrounds it.

27. My endeavours from the first have been to encourage agriculture, for I am sure there is a source of profit though not a fortune to be made from it.

28. With this object I purchased for the Government, for a nominal sum, a large tract of land that 100 years ago was a sugar estate, at Kew, North Caicos, and I hope shortly to start a Government fruit plantation there, on some plan, not quite settled, as to terms with the people as leaseholders and labourers.

TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS.

29. Oranges, lemons, limes, and all the citrus tribe, with pine-apples will thrive, and indeed old orange trees are now growing and bearing well. Other tropical fruits, such as bananas, &c., that require heavy tropical rains, will not succeed as the rainfall is not much more than 25 inches in a year, but from the exports of the fruits I have mentioned a large profit can be made, as these Islands are only five days steam from New York where a ready sale can always be found for fruit. With instruction, and an example, the people will soon see the benefit of the industry.

30. The Agane sisilana or Sisal hemp, and the Fourcroya gigantea, or Pita plant, which is believed to be the same as the aloes vert of Mauritius, is also being largely planted, as samples of the fibre extracted from some of the aloes growing here have recently been pronounced by the largest manufacturer in New York to be much nicer and finer in texture and longer than what is shipped from Mexico in thousands of tons, and he would give 12 cents. (or nearly double) a pound for any quantity forwarded to him equal to the specimen sent from Turks Islands.

31. This is most encouraging, and when machinery is started for the purpose of extracting the fibre I have every reason to hope its export will be a permanent and valuable profit to the Settlement.

32. No paragraph has hitherto been assigned to "agriculture" in a Blue Book Report from the Turks and Caicos Islands, but it will not be the last, if the people rouse themselves, as I think they are now doing, to understand that they cannot live solely by salt raking any more, and must devote some of their energies to agriculture.

General Remarks.

33. The year under review has not been a very prosperous one to the salt rakers, as the value of salt has never exceeded seven cents. a bushel, which is a barely remunerative price, and the salt raker has lived mainly on the profits from the goods (provisions, &c.) that he sells to his labourers. The public bank of this Settlement however collected over 500*l.* from various borrowers to pay off a depositor who has left the Colony and wished her money, which must be considered as an advantage to the borrowers, principally salt pond rakers, and will I trust rouse them to free themselves further from paying eight per cent. on money borrowed years ago which has eaten itself up in interest. I am very anxious to see this bank wound up, and hope the Ordinance passed by the Legislative Board during the year for effecting this will soon receive the Governor's assent and the work be proceeded with.

34. Small-pox was very bad in San Domingo and Hayti during the whole year, but by careful quarantine the disease was kept from these Islands with the exception of two distinct cases that arrived in two separate small vessels belonging to these Islands, and obtained pratique by making false reports to the boarding officer, for which the masters were subsequently punished, but fortunately the disease did not spread as the

cases were isolated immediately they appeared. The weather was fine throughout although a severe hurricane passed 150 miles north of these Islands on the 23rd August.

35. As 1,000,000 bushels of salt remained on hand on the 31st December, I cannot say the prospects for the ensuing year are very encouraging to the salt rakers, but other resources will I hope be developed to assist both the employers and labourers.

(Signed) R. B. LLEWELYN,
Commissioner.

Turks and Caicos Islands,
2nd February 1882.

BRITISH GUIANA.

No 5.

Governor Sir H. T. IRVING, K.C.M.G., to the Right Hon. the EARL OF KIMBERLEY.

Government House, Georgetown, Demerara,
August 17, 1882.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship the Blue Book of British Guiana for the year 1881, accompanied by the customary report thereon, which has been drawn up by Mr. F. W. Collier, lately Acting Assistant Government Secretary.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY T. IRVING,
Governor.

The Right Hon.
The Earl of Kimberley,
&c. &c. &c.

REPORT on the BLUE BOOK, 1881.

Taxes, Duties, &c.

1. There were no material changes in taxation during the year, and the taxes in 1881 were substantially the same as in the preceding year.

Revenue and Expenditure.

2. *Revenue.*—The receipts on account of general revenue amounted to 403,245*l.* 9*s.* 7½*d.* exhibiting a decrease of 1,215*l.* 16*s.* 5*d.* from the revenue of 1880. This decrease is not due to any diminution in trade or general prosperity of the Colony. It arises from a falling off in the receipts from the duties on wines and spirits, amounting to 15,186*l.*, caused chiefly by the subsidence of speculative importations of Tarragona wine. The importations of this wine in 1880 amounted to 301,824 gallons as compared with 68 gallons only in 1881.

The other sources of revenue exhibited comparatively little fluctuation in 1881. Import duties yielded 4,749*l.* more than in

BRITISH GUIANA.

the preceding year, and auction duties and other like taxes fixed by law yielded 2,691*l.* more than in 1880.

3. It will thus be seen that if the exceptional revenue derived in 1880 from import duty on Tarragona wine were omitted in a comparison of the revenue of the years 1880 and 1881, the revenue of the latter year would be in excess of the former.

4. *Expenditure.*—The total expenditure in 1881 amounted to 421,087*l.* 2*s.* 0½*d.*, and was 26,494*l.* 10*s.* 1*d.* larger than the expenditure of the preceding year.

The principal items of increase were :— Miscellaneous expenditure 10,044*l.*, judicial 8,817*l.*, works and buildings 2,433*l.*, and education 2,132*l.*

LOCAL REVENUES.

5. *Georgetown.*—The revenue raised for municipal purposes in the city of Georgetown amounted to 43,712*l.* 15*s.* 10*d.*, an increase of 8,308*l.* 7*s.* 11½*d.* over the revenue of the preceding year. The expenditure amounted to 42,116*l.* 11*s.* 0½*d.* as against 36,385*l.* 6*s.* 8½*d.* in 1880.

6. During this year the new city market, erected at a cost of 38,712*l.*, was completed and formally opened to the public. The cost of construction was provided for by a loan of 41,750*l.*, raised under the provisions of the Public Loan Ordinance, 1879.

The Bourda District (a populous suburb on the east of the city) having in 1880 been incorporated as a ward of the city, the first appraisement of the property in that district was made during this year, and the value of the property was assessed at 31,131*l.*

7. *New Amsterdam.*—The revenue of the town of New Amsterdam, derived chiefly from a tax of one and a half per centum on the appraised value of town property, amounted to 5,301*l.* 11*s.* 7*d.*, showing a decrease of 935*l.* 1*s.* 7*d.* from the revenue of 1880.

The expenditure was 7,367*l.* 5*s.* 11*d.*, an excess of 2,065*l.* 14*s.* 4*d.* over the revenue of the year, and of 1,345*l.* 1*s.* 9*d.* over the expenditure of the previous year.

8. *Villages.*—The revenue of the 31 incorporated villages, including a sum of 3,662*l.* 3*s.* 9½*d.* due by ratepayers at the close of the year, amounted in the aggregate to 8,102*l.* 0*s.* 7½*d.*, showing a decrease of 1,033*l.* 4*s.* 5½*d.* from the revenue of 1880. The actual expenditure was 4,406*l.* 1*s.* 7½*d.* as compared with 6,668*l.* 10*s.* 1*d.* in 1880. The liabilities of the villages on 31st December 1881 amounted to 23,251*l.* 10*s* 6½*d.* These liabilities consist chiefly of loans, bearing interest at 6 per cent. per annum, made from time to time from the general revenues of the Colony for the improvement of the villages.

Public Debt.

9. The public debt of the Colony for which the general revenue is directly pledged was, on the 31st December 1881, 75,207*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.*, an increase of 23,882*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* over the public debt of 1880. The increase is due to additional loans for public purposes under Ordinance 6 of 1879.

10. The loans guaranteed by the general revenue were, as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
For immigration purposes, on the security of sugar estates by notes for indenture fees - - - - - -	245,400	0	0
For the Mayor and Town Council of Georgetown, secured by the municipal revenues -	41,835	16	8
For the Board of Superintendence for the town of New Amsterdam, secured by the town revenues - - - - -	4,583	6	8½
Total guaranteed by general revenue -	291,819	3	4½
Amount for which general revenue is directly pledged - - - - -	75,207	6	8
Grand total - - -	367,026	10	0½

MILITARY EXPENDITURE.

11. The Colonial expenditure was 3,245*l.* 17*s.* 3*d.*, and the Imperial expenditure 14,835*l.* 9*s.* 3*d.*, showing a slight excess over the expenditure under those heads in 1880. The strength of the Georgetown militia, according to the last return in office, was on 31st December 13 officers, seven sergeants, and 517 rank and file.

The strength of the British Guiana volunteer force was five officers, five sergeants, and 109 rank and file.

The Militia has, however, not been called out or drilled for many years. The volunteer force is an active force regularly attending drills.

PUBLIC WORKS.

12. Provision was made by the Combined Court for public works to the extent of 186,988*l.* 2*s.* 11*d.*, and of this sum 69,253*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* was expended. A further sum of 4,412*l.* 14*s.* was expended on certain urgent works for which no provision had been made; making a total expenditure in 1881 of 73,666*l.* 0*s.* 8*d.*, an increase of 31,240*l.* 5*s.* 7½*d.* over the expenditure in 1880.

13. The following were the principal items of expenditure viz.:—

	£
Constructing law courts - - -	10,063
Constructing sea wall and dam - -	6,589
Enlarging bonded warehouse - -	3,620
Constructing asylum for female lepers -	3,159
Constructing residences at Botanic gardens - - - - -	2,966
Constructing new public hospital, Berbice	2,537

Legislation.

14. The following Ordinances were passed during the year:—

No. 1. For taking the census of British Guiana.

No. 2. To levy a tax on all lots and buildings in the town of New Amsterdam for the service of the year 1881.

No. 3. Colonial taxes.

No. 4. To amend "The Inferior Criminal Court Ordinance, 1872."

No. 5. To amend "The Vlissengen Ordinance, 1876."

Political Franchise.

15. The number of registered electors on 31st December 1881 was 1,001, showing an increase of 286 over the number in 1880. Of this increase 217 were electors for the city of Georgetown.

Councils and Assemblies.

16. *Court of Policy. Elective Members.*—Mr. Charles Lawrence Bascom and Mr. G. R. Sandbach resigned in consequence of departure from the Colony, and they were replaced by Mr. Hugh Sproston, junior, and Mr. Wm. Russell. Mr. R. P. Drysdale, at the close of the annual session of the Combined Court, vacated his seat and was replaced by Mr. Allan C. McCalman.

The Combined Court.

17. *The Financial Representatives.*—Mr. H. T. Glennie and Mr. Mewburn Garnett resigned in consequence of departure from the Colony, and were replaced by Mr. Isidor Henry de Jonge and Mr. Andrew Hunter.

18. *College of Electors.*—There were three elections to the College during the year, to supply vacancies occasioned by the resignation of one member, the absence from the Colony of another, and the disqualification of a third.

Civil Establishment.

19. *Deaths.*—There were 12 deaths amongst public officers in 1881, viz.:—

The Hon. J. G. Daly, Immigration Agent-General.

Mr. Henry Watson, Administrator-General.

Mr. J. Brumell, Sheriff of Demerara.

Dr. W. Watkins, District Medical Officer.

Dr. M. F. Ward, Supernumerary Medical Officer.

Mr. A. Taylor, Sub-Immigration Agent.

Mr. G. Foster Foster, Acting Private Secretary to His Excellency the Governor.

Mr. F. H. Stubbs, Quartermaster, Queen's College.

Mr. S. S. Halliday, Chief Clerk in the Administrator-General's Office.

Rev. C. S. Campbell, Curate.

Mr. P. C. Pollock, Assistant Master, Training Institution.

Mr. P. R. Sharpe, Clerk, Customs Department.

20. The principal appointments and promotions during the year were:—

Mr. Robert W. S. Mitchell to be Immigration Agent-General, in the room of Mr. John Daly, deceased; Captain Edmund Fortescue to be Inspector of Prisons vice Col. J. Elliot, C.B., appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies to be Inspector-General of Police at Barbadoes; Captain W. F. Portlock Dadson appointed to succeed Captain Fortescue, Mr. N. Darnell Davis, Postmaster General, promoted to the office of Controller of Customs, in the room of Mr. Hugh W. Austin, retired on pension; Mr. F. M. Hodgson, of the General Post Office, London, appointed to be Postmaster-General of British Guiana; Mr. T. G. Wight, Assistant Crown Surveyor, promoted to be Crown Surveyor; Mr. C. B. King, Sub-Immigration Agent, promoted to be Senior Sub-Agent, in the room of Mr. J. F. Trotter appointed by the Secretary of State to be Protector of Immigrants at Mauritius; Mr J. T. Thorne, Inspector of Police, promoted to be Senior Inspector, vice Mr. P. H. R. Hill, promoted in 1880 to be Assistant Police Magistrate of Georgetown.

Mr. John Haughton appointed to be Stipendiary Magistrate, in succession to Mr. E. Smith, appointed in 1880 to be a District Judge in Jamaica, and the appointments of Drs. Massiah, Freeman, and Widdup to be Supernumerary Medical Officers in the Immigration Service of British Guiana.

OFFICERS GIVING SECURITY.

21. One hundred and ten public officers gave security during the year, as against fifty-four in the previous year. This increase is due to the operation of the Public Officers' Guarantee Fund, established in 1880, and also to a decision of the Government that all officers who had dealings with public moneys should be required to give security commensurate with the sums of money for which they were responsible. Seventy-six officers in consequence of this Order were placed on the roll of the fund during the year.

PENSIONS.

22. Mr. Hugh W. Austin, Controller of Customs availed himself of the provisions of the Pension Ordinance, and retired on 1st July 1881 on a pension calculated on 15 years' service; two officers retired on pension on account of ill heath, and one officer on account of infirmity of mind.

BRITISH GUIANA.

PUBLIC OFFICERS' WIDOWS AND ORPHANS FUND.

23. The receipts of this fund, which is formed by an abatement of 4 per cent. on all salaries above 100*l.*, was in 1881 8,159*l.* 6*s.* 10½*d.*, and the expenditure 4,427*l.* 10*s.*

There were 64 pensioners on the fund at the close of the year, eight of whom were added that year.

POPULATION.

24. The population of the Colony, according to the Census taken on the 3rd April 1881, was 140,134 males and 112,052 females, total 252,186 showing a numerical increase in the decade of 58,695 and a centesimal increase of 30·33. The area of the Colony being taken to be 76,000 square miles, the population is at the rate of three persons to the square mile.

25. *Increase.*—The increase of population is found under the following heads, viz.:—

Natives of British Guiana -	36,069	
East Indian Immigrants - -	22,480	
West Indian Immigrants - -	4,393	
Europeans - - -	173	
Natives of other places - -	452	
		64,107

And the decrease under the following heads, viz.:—

African Immigrants - -	2,464	
Chinese Immigrants - -	1,902	
Portuguese Immigrants - -	1,046	
		5,412
Net increase in 10 years - -		58,695

26. The following table shows the population of the Colony in each decade from 1831 to 1881, the number of persons to the square mile, and the numerical and centesimal increase in each ten years:—

Years.	Population.	No. of Persons to the Square Mile.	Numerical Increase of Population.	Centesimal Increase.
1831 - - -	98,000	1·28		
1841 - - -	98,154	1·29	154	0·15
1851 - - -	135,994	1·78	37,840	38·55
1861 - - -	155,907	2·05	19,913	14·64
1871 - - -	193,491	2·54	37,584	24·10
1881 - - -	252,186	3·31	58,695	30·33
Actual increase in 50 years - - -			154,186 or	157·30

27. *Conjugal Condition.*—The number of unmarried males of all ages was 109,160; of females, 79,257. There were 27,912 husbands, 25,821 wives, 3,062 widowers, and 6,974 widows.

28. *Occupation.*— Agriculture gave employment to 108,225 labourers, of whom 67,392 were males and 40,833 females. There were 14,563 domestic servants; 3,299 males and 11,264 females. The mechanics and artizans numbered 10,086. 6,042 persons were planters, farmers, or woodcutters, &c.; 3,970 were merchants, shopkeepers, or clerks; and 2,312 were engaged in the public service (625 being in the police force) or in learned professions.

29. *Birth-places.* The native population was 149,635 (14,768 of whom were born of parents from India); 18,318 were natives of the West Indies; 6,879 of Madeira and the Azores; 1,616 of Europe; 5,077 of Africa; 65,161 of India (of whom 47,227 had completed their term of indentured service in the Colony); 4,394 were natives of China; and 1,102 natives of other parts.

30. *Ages.*—The ages of 191 persons could not be ascertained. 45,109 males and 43,072 females, total 88,181, or 35 per cent. of the whole population, were under 20 years of age.

The number over that age, and the per-centage of the same on the entire population (omitting the 191 persons whose ages were unknown), is as follows :—

Ages.	No. of Persons.	Percentage on whole Population.
20 Years and upwards	22,742	9·02
25 „ „	28,909	11·47
30 „ „	32,331	12·83
35 „ „	19,237	7·63
40 „ „	22,002	8·73
45 „ „	10,907	4·33
50 „ „	16,614	4·21
55 „ „	4,763	1·88
60 „ „	5,278	2·09
65 „ „	2,230	·88
70 „ „	2,043	·81
75 „ „	974	·39
80 „ „	1,784	·71
Over 20 years of age	—	65·
Under 20 years of age	—	35·
		100·

31. *Births.*—The number of births during the year was 8,144, or 32·29 per 1,000 of the population.

MISCELLANEOUS RETURNS.

32. *Savings Banks.*—The statistics of this institution continue to exhibit very satisfactory evidence of its progress. The total number of depositors in 1881 exceeded the number in 1880 by

BRITISH GUIANA.

1,116, and the aggregate amount of the deposits was 29,894*l.* 7*s.* 4*d.* more than in 1880.

There were, at the close of the year, 5,013 immigrant depositors, with a sum of 114,602*l.* 10*s.* 2½*d.* to their credit in the savings bank, and 5,211 Creole and European depositors with 78,775*l.* 13*s.* 6½*d.* to their credit.

The deposits of immigrants give an average of 22*l.* 17*s.* 2½*d.* per immigrant depositor, and those of the Creole and other depositors an average of 15*l.* 2*s.* 4*d.* per depositor.

33. *Paupers.*—The number of persons who received poor law relief during the year was 2,449, a decrease of 10 from the number relieved in the previous year.

34. *Immigration.*—The number of immigrants introduced during the year was 4,423, equivalent to 4,058½ statute adults, viz.:—

From Calcutta - - -	3,695½
„ Barbadoes - -	207½
„ Madeira - - -	155½
	4,058½

The average cost per statute adult Indian immigrant was 16*l.* 19*s.* 6*d.* each during the season 1880–81, as compared with 17*l.* 14*s.* 6*d.*, the average cost per immigrant during the previous season.

The average cost per statute adult Barbadian immigrant introduced during the year was 3*l.* 13*s.* 1½*d.*, as compared with 2*l.* 0*s.* 7*d.*, the average cost per immigrant during the previous year. The difference is attributed to the number of immigrants introduced in 1881, owing to the closing of the port through quarantine restrictions, being considerably less than the number introduced in 1880, while the cost of the establishment remained the same.

The Madeira immigrants were introduced at an average cost of 7*l.* 5*s.* 10*d.* per statute adult. Public money is now, however, no longer appropriated to this class of immigration.

35. *Return Immigrants.*—The number of Indian immigrants who returned to Calcutta during the year was 1,566 souls, or 1,366½ statute adults, being, as compared with the previous year, a decrease of 30 statute adults. The value of jewellery carried away by these return immigrants was estimated at 5,104*l.* 3*s.* 4*d.* The sums which they deposited with the Government for remittance to India amounted in the aggregate to 20,433*l.* 18*s.*

EDUCATION.

36. *Elementary Schools.*—There were 183 schools which received Government aid during 1881, viz.:—

Primary schools - - -	162
Infant schools - - -	13
Mission schools - - -	8
	183

Aid was withdrawn from two schools in consequence of failure on inspection, and six new schools were added to the list of state-aided schools.

The 174 schools which were inspected had on the registers 21,486 children, whose average attendance during the twelve months previous to inspection was 11,398. There were present at inspection 16,806, of whom 10,900 were examined.

The comparison of these statistics with those for the two preceding years shows a gradual improvement in each particular viz. :—

—	1879.	1880.	1881.
Average attendance - -	10,192	10,915	11,398
Present at inspection - -	14,954	16,155	16,806
Number examined - -	8,632	10,104	10,900
Number passed - - -	8,167	9,250	10,202

37. *Queen's College.*—This institution has sustained a sad loss by the death of the second master, Mr. F. H. Stubbs, from yellow fever. It has also suffered from irregularity in the attendance of the pupils owing to the unhealthiness of the year.

Six candidates from the college were entered during this year for the Cambridge local examination and one candidate for the Gilchrist scholarship.

38. *Training Institution.*—Twenty-three students, the full number for which there is accommodation, were in residence during the year. At the annual examination for teachers certificates 11 students were successful, an increase of three over the number successful in the preceding year.

On the 17th September an assistant master was appointed to the institution; but Mr. James Pollock, on whom the appointment was conferred, died within a month after his assumption of the duties. Mr. F. S. Tipson has been temporarily employed as assistant master in the institution since the death of Mr. Pollock.

39. *The Government School for Vagrants and Youthful Offenders.*—There were 112 boys in the school on the 31st December 1881, showing an increase of 36 over the number in the institution on the same date in the preceding year. The boys were principally employed in agriculture, and during the year twenty additional acres of land were put into cultivation, making a total area of more than 48 acres of land now under cultivation in connexion with the institution.

The health of the inmates was on the whole very satisfactory, and only one death occurred during the year.

BRITISH GUIANA.

IMPORTS.

40. The value of the imports was 1,784,144*l.* 12*s.* 5½*d.* As compared with the imports of 1880 there was a decrease of 218,551*l.* 2*s.* 1½*d.*, and, as indicated by their value, the imports of 1881 were lower than in any year since 1873.

41. This falling off in the value of imports in 1881 is partly attributable to the stagnation of trade, consequent on the outbreak of fever which occurred during the year and prevailed more or less generally throughout the West Indies, and the enforcement of quarantine restrictions thereby rendered necessary. As showing how the trade of British Guiana was affected by these restrictions, it may be stated that there was a marked decrease in the imports of produce of other Colonies sent to British Guiana for export, and also in British and American goods imported into the Colony for export to other parts. The imports of sugar from Dutch Guiana alone showed a decrease of 13,063*l.*, and the imports of goods admitted at 5 per cent. ad valorem duty, and not enumerated, showed a decrease of 101,741*l.* There was beside a falling off in the value of the following imports, viz. :—

	£
Coals - - - -	32,885
Onions - - -	11,365
Rice - - - -	33,754
Wine, in wood - -	33,590

The decrease in the imports of coal was an exceptional circumstance, and the stock of coal in the Colony at the close of the year being insufficient to meet the demand, the manufacture of sugar was materially retarded thereby. The decrease under the head of rice does not arise from a falling off in the importations of that article, but is due to the lower prices prevailing in 1881. The importations of wine in 1880 were exceptional and for speculative purposes.

42. The only item which exhibits a marked increase is that of flour, which shows an increase of 25,379*l.* This increase is chiefly attributable to the higher prices prevailing in 1881.

EXPORTS.

43. The exports in 1881 were valued at 2,597,291*l.* 1*s.* 6*d.* as against 2,617,624*l.* 12*s.* 10*d.* in 1880; showing a decrease of 20,333*l.* 11*s.* 4*d.* The value of the exports was at the rate of 10*l.* per head of the population.

44. The following is a comparative statement of the value of the articles of colonial produce exported in the years 1880 and 1881.

Comparative Statement of the Value of Colonial Produce exported in the years 1880 *and* 1881, *showing the increase or decrease in each article.*

Description of Articles.	Value of Produce and Manufactures of the Colony, 1880.	Value of Produce and Manufactures of the Colony, 1881.	Increase in 1881.	Decrease in 1881.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Coffee - - - -	176 12 6	37 9 7½	—	139 2 10½
Cocoanuts - - -	3,746 14 10½	2,999 6 3	—	747 8 7½
Charcoal - - -	5,410 2 6	5,200 0 0	—	210 2 6
Corn and pulse - -	36 0 0	138 2 6	102 2 6	—
Cattle and live stock -	3,870 17 6	1,828 9 7	—	2,042 7 11
Firewood - - -	103 6 0	115 9 2	12 3 2	—
Glue, fish, &c. - -	2,717 3 6	2,909 12 8	192 9 2	—
Gum, Balata - -	2,401 0 3	4,605 9 2	2,204 8 11	—
Other gums - - -	1,093 19 5	4,762 4 8½	3,668 5 3½	—
Hides and horns - -	2,732 15 2	3,029 1 2½	296 6 0½	—
Match splints - -	135 2 1	—	—	135 2 1
Molasses - - -	74,379 7 6	75,140 0 0	760 12 6	—
Rum - - - -	184,745 0 0	283,722 14 2	98,977 14 2	—
Shingles - - -	3,478 5 7½	3,543 6 3	65 0 7½	—
Sugar - - - -	2,080,292 10 0	2,019,257 9 2½	—	61,035 0 9½
Timber - - -	15,951 17 4	4,957 8 10½	—	10,994 8 5½
Non-enumerated - -	2,635 6 0	2,691 4 10½	55 18 10½	—
	2,383,906 0 3	2,414,937 8 3	106,335 1 3	75,303 13 3
Net increase - -	31,031 8 0	—	—	31,031 8 0
	2,414,937 8 3	2,414,937 8 3	106,335 1 3	106,355 1 3

45. The foregoing figures demonstrate that the falling off in exports which occurred in 1881 did not arise from any decrease in the value of exports of colonial produce, but occurred in the exports of the produce and manufactures of other countries. The exports to the United States alone of produce of other countries fell from 35,091*l.* in 1880 to 10,814*l.* in 1881. This decrease, and the decrease which occurred in respect to exports of produce from Dutch Guiana, Trinidad, and other West Indian ports, is doubtless chiefly attributable to the enforcement of quarantine restrictions, as already adverted to.

46. The principal item of increase in the exports was rum, but this increase does not arise from an increased exportation of that article. It is due to the higher price for Demerara rum which prevailed in 1881.

There was an increase of 5,872*l.* in the value of Balata and other gums exported in 1881. This trade has been gradually developing itself during the past few years.

BRITISH GUIANA.

SHIPPING.

47. The number of vessels entered and cleared at the ports of Georgetown and New Amsterdam during 1881 was as follows:—

—	Ports.	Entered.		Cleared.	
		No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
Steam vessels.	Georgetown - - -	109	83,556	108	83,681
	New Amsterdam - - -	2	1,379	2	1,379
	Total - -	111	84,935	110	85,060
Sailing vessels.	Georgetown - - -	811	168,965	802	167,509
	New Amsterdam - - -	49	6,702	46	6,410
	Total - -	860	175,667	848	173,919
	Total Steam and Sailing Vessels -	971	260,602	958	258,979

48. These figures when compared with the statistics for the preceding year show an increase in 1881 in the number of steam vessels, while there is a more than corresponding decrease in that year in the number of sailing vessels trading to the Colony. The comparison is as follows:—

—	Vessels.	1880.	1881.	Increase.	Decrease.
Entered.	Steam Vessels - -	91	111	20	—
	Sailing Vessels - -	1,005	860	—	145
	Total - -	1,096	971	—	125
Cleared.	Steam Vessels - -	89	110	21	—
	Sailing Vessels - -	1,061	848	—	213
	Total - -	1,150	958	—	192

AGRICULTURE.

49. *Sugar Estates.*—The number of sugar estates in cultivation on 31st December was 109, occupying a total area of 143,182 acres. Of this area 77,958 acres were in cane cultivation, showing an increase of 2,993 acres more than in the preceding year; 2,652 acres were in plantain cultivation; the remaining 62,570 acres were uncultivated. The quantity of sugar exported was 102,565 hogsheads, giving an average produce per acre of cane cultivation of 1·32 hogshead, exclusive of the quantity consumed in the Colony.

50. *Cocoa Cultivation.*—Attention has recently been given to the cultivation of cocoa, which is indigenous to the Colony, and

it is hoped that this valuable product may yet become a staple of export.

51. *Rate of Wages.*—There is no perceptible fluctuation in the rate of wages. The total amount of wages paid on the sugar estates during the year 1880 has been ascertained to be as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Demerara - -	659,277	16	3½
Essequebo - -	227,866	13	10
Berbice - -	203,505	6	10½
The whole Colony -	1,090,649	17	0

The total amount paid in 1870 was 875,712*l.* 5*s.* 1*d.*

The comparison of the exports of those two years is as follows:—

—	1870.	1880.
Sugar, hogsheads - - - -	94,944	108,536
Rum, puncheons - - - - -	27,169	24,633
Molasses, casks - - - - -	17,606	17,001

The cost of the production of a hogshead of sugar was, therefore, in 1880 10*l.* 1*s.* as compared with 9*l.* 4*s.* 4*d.* in 1870; thus clearly showing that the rate of wages was not diminished in 1880.

52. *Demand for Labour.*—The urgent demand for agricultural labourers continues unabated. The large number of immigrants introduced into the Colony during the past ten years has not at all affected the rate of wages as is shown in the preceding paragraph. The increase of the labouring population brings about a corresponding increase of cultivation, and as the resources of the Colony are at present but partially developed there is every prospect of a long continuance of the demand for labour.

53. *Prices of Produce.*—The prices for articles of Colonial produce were higher during the year under report than during the preceding year, as is shown in the following comparative statement, viz.:—

—	1880.			1881.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Cocoanuts - - - per 1,000	3	2	6	3	9	8
Sugar - - - - „ hhd.	19	3	4	19	13	9
Rum - - - - „ puncheon	7	10	0	12	1	8
Molasses - - - „ cask	4	7	6	5	0	0
Timber - - - - „ cubic foot	0	1	1	0	0	10½

BRITISH GUIANA.

54. *Prices of the various Articles of Consumption.*—The following were the prices of some of the principal articles of food, viz.:—bread, per lb. loaf 4*d.*; milk, per pint 3*d.*; beef, per lb. 8*d.*; pork 9*d.*; mutton 1*s.*; salt fish 3*d.*; yams 1½*d.*; sweet potatoes 1*d.*; rice 2*d.*; plantains, per bunch 6*d.* to 1*s.* 8*d.*; coffee, per lb. 7*d.*; tea 1*s.* 8*d.* to 4*s.* 2*d.*; sugar 2½*d.* to 5*d.*

55. The importance of the introduction of labour-saving machinery for the cultivation of the soil has long been recognized by colonists, and in 1838 and the following nine years provision was annually made on the estimate of a grant in aid of the introduction of machinery and implements adapted to agricultural purposes. More recently (in 1875) the Combined Court passed a resolution authorizing the Governor to offer premiums to the extent of 20,823*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* for the introduction of machinery which might supersede manual labour in the tilling of the soil and in other work connected with the manufacture of sugar; but the attempts hitherto made to introduce such machinery have not been attended with the desired measure of success.

GRANTS OF LAND.

56. During this year 22 licenses of occupancy and 23 woodcutting licenses were issued as against 15 licenses of occupancy and 25 woodcutting licenses issued in the preceding year. Fifteen of the licenses were for tracts of 100 acres and under; 25 for tracts of land above 100 acres, but not exceeding 500 acres; and five for tracts of more than 500 acres each. The entire grants made in 1881 represent 11,168 acres of Crown lands granted during the year, as compared with 8,780 acres granted in 1880.

The timber exported during the year amounted to 113,313 feet, valued at 4,957*l.* 8*s.* 10½*d.*

CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

57. *Police Reports.*—The number of offences reported to the police or to the magistrates during 1881 was 13,517, an increase of 98 over the number reported in 1880.

58. *Apprehensions and Summonses.*—The number of persons brought before the magistrates' courts was 27,196, as compared with 28,217 in the previous year. The cases were disposed of as follows:—

Convicted - - - -	13,065
Discharged - - - -	8,778
Acquitted - - - -	5,027
Sent on to superior courts - -	326
	27,196

59. *Summary Convictions.*—The total number of summary convictions in the magistrates' courts was 13,065. The only head under which there was an increase is that of "Offences against the person," which exhibits an increase of 225 over the number in 1880.

60. *Indictments and Informations in the Superior Courts.*—The total number of cases tried in the superior courts was 471, a decrease of 45 from the number of cases in 1880. There was a very satisfactory decrease in the number of trials for murder, there having been only 6 convictions of this crime in 1881 as compared with 19 in 1880. The convictions of manslaughter were 14 as compared with 20 in 1880.

The cases tried in the superior courts ended in the following manner, viz. :—

Judgment for the Crown - -	233
Judgment for the prisoner - -	127
Case fell through for want of prosecution	111
	471

GAOLS AND PRISONERS.

61. The total number of prisoners committed was 6,899, showing a decrease in 1881 of 1,494 prisoners. There was a decrease of 1,316 commitments under the head of "penal imprisonment," the commitments in 1881 being 5,351 as against 7,667 in 1880. 558 persons were committed for safe custody till trial, or for want of security, and five for debt. The daily average number in prison was 980 as compared with 1,023 in 1880. The prevailing diseases were fever and dysentery. The daily average on the sick list was 54 as compared with 59·37 in 1880. There were 30 deaths from natural causes as against 20 in 1880. No cases of suicide occurred. Three executions took place.

HOSPITALS.

62. *Admissions.*—There were 436 patients in the public hospital at Georgetown at the beginning of the year. The number of admissions during the year was 5,746. Deducting from these latter figures 82 births and 183 admissions of relatives and friends of patients, the number of actual patients admitted for treatment during the year was 5,481, a decrease of 357 patients as compared with the number admitted in 1880.

The admissions to the public hospital at New Amsterdam were 1,433 as against 1,494 in the preceding year, and deducting 10 admissions of relatives and friends of patients, the number treated in 1881 was 1,423.

BRITISH GUIANA.

63. *Discharges.*—The number of patients discharged from the two hospitals was as follows:—

—	Georgetown.	New Amsterdam.
Cured - - - - -	3,296	483
Relieved - - - - -	1,304	567
Not Improved - - - -	289	81
	4,889	1,131

64. *Deaths.*—There were 897 deaths in the hospital at Georgetown as compared with 806 in 1880. Ninety-seven of the patients were moribund and died within 24 hours of admission, and deducting these the mortality was at the rate of 14·57 per cent. of the patients treated as compared with 13·83 per-cent. in 1880.

The deaths at the Hospital in New Amsterdam numbered 187 as compared with 251 in 1880.

Twenty-six died within 24 hours of admission, and, omitting these from the calculations, the death rate in 1881 was 11·31 per cent. of the patients treated as compared with 12·38 per cent. in 1880.

65. *Diseases.*—The nine principal diseases treated at the hospital in Georgetown were:—Ulcers, 593 cases; intermittent fever, 472; phthisis, 272; diarrhœa, 266; rheumatism, 264; debility, 235; anœmia, 228; syphilis 197; and dropsy, 192.

The following is a table of the diseases treated at the two hospitals, and of the deaths from such diseases:—

—	Georgetown.		New Amsterdam.	
	No. of Cases.	Deaths.	No. of Cases.	Deaths.
Zymotic - -	1,877	274	641	86
Constitutional - -	603	276	224	58
Local - - -	2,082	205	553	95
Developmental - -	634	118	25	9
Accidents - -	285	24	51	3
Total - -	5,481	897	1,494	251

LUNATIC ASYLUM.

66. *Admissions.*—The number of admissions to this institution was 100, viz., 65 males and 35 females, as compared with 101 admissions in 1880. The daily average number of lunatics in the asylum during the year was 345.

67. *Discharges.*—Thirty-five inmates (23 males and 12 females) were discharged as cured, an increase of 15 over the number discharged in the preceding year.

68. *Deaths.*—There were 37 deaths in the institution, viz., 24 males and 13 females. Bright's disease was in most cases the immediate cause of death. The per-centage of deaths on the average number was 10·7, and on the whole number of patients treated 8·5.

69. *Classification of Patients.*—The cases in the asylum at the close of the year were classified as follows:—

Quiet, chronic, and convalescent - -	46·52
Maniacal - - - - -	39·83
Idiotic, paralytic, and epileptic - - -	10·58
Melancholy, acute - - - -	3·07

70. *Nationalities.*—The inmates admitted in 1881 were natives of following places, viz.:—British Guiana, 27; India, 49; Madeira, 4; China, 1; Africa, 3; Barbadoes, 9; other West Indian Islands, 2; Surinam, 2; Europe, 3.

LEPER ASYLUMS.

71. *Admissions.*—At the asylum for males at Mahaica there were 74 admissions during the year (11 being re-admissions) as compared with 81 admissions in 1880. The admissions to the Kaow Island Asylum were 14. The total number of inmates at these two asylums for males was, on 31st December, 1881, as against 175 inmates in 1880. At the close of the year the new asylum for females erected at Gorchum was nearly ready for occupation. The female lepers were throughout the year accommodated in a separate building on the grounds of the Georgetown Hospital.

72. *Deaths.*—31 inmates died at the Mahaica Asylum and five at the Kaow Island Asylum, all more or less from the exhaustion caused by the disease.

(Signed) F. W. COLLIER.

Government Secretary's Office,
British Guiana,
5th August 1882.

TRINIDAD.

TRINIDAD.

No. 6.

Administrator J. SCOTT BUSHE, C.M.G., to the Right Hon. the EARL OF KIMBERLEY.

MY LORD, Trinidad, August 14, 1882.

I HAVE the honour to transmit the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1881, with the following report upon the statistical returns and on the progress of the Colony generally.

I.—*Taxes and Duties.*

2. The import duties were levied under the Ordinance No. 19 of 1879 modified as respects the items spirits and oils by the Ordinance No. 16 of 1881, which was passed on the 19th November 1881, and came into operation on the same day. By this Ordinance the duty on imported rum was raised from five shillings (5*s.*) to six shillings (6*s.*) the gallon, and on all other spirits from seven shillings (7*s.*) to eight shillings (8*s.*) the gallon; and the duty on cocoanut oil was increased from fourpence (4*d.*) to sixpence (6*d.*) per gallon, while all other oils were charged with a duty of 1*s.* instead of 9*d.*

3. The export duty imposed under Ordinance No. 19 of 1880 for the purposes of immigration was on a slightly higher scale than in 1880. The rates were on sugar :—

	s.	*d.*
For every hogshead - - -	7	0
„ tierce - - - -	4	8
„ barrel - - - -	1	0
On Molasses :—		
For every puncheon - - -	2	4
„ half puncheon - - -	1	2
On Rum :—		
For every puncheon - - -	4	8
On Cocoa :—		
For every 100 lbs. - - -	1	0
On Coffee :—		
For every 100 lbs. - - -	0	10

4. The excise duty on rum was levied under Ordinance No. 4 of 1878 until the 9th November 1881, when by the Ordinance No. 16 of 1881 the rate was increased from 5*s.* to 6*s.* per gallon, hydrometer proof.

5. The customs duties realised in 1881 148,843*l.* 17*s.* 2*d.*, as compared with 150,766*l.* 0*s.* 10*d.* realised in 1880, and the rum duty also showed a small deficiency, the receipts for the years 1880 and 1881 being respectively 95,128*l.* 17*s.* and 93,651*l.* 1*s.* 8½*d.*

6. By the Ordinance No. 1 of 1881, which came into operation on the 23rd March of that year, four classes of spirit licenses were created. Under Ordinance 20 of 1879 licenses were issued for Port of Spain, San Fernando, and for the country districts, but by the new law the licenses issuable in respect of towns other than Port of Spain or San Fernando are charged with a higher rate than applies to country districts, in the strict sense of the term. The large increase in the amount received for licenses in 1881, as compared with 1880, the respective sums being 23,606*l.* 10*s.* 2½*d.* and 11,033*l.* 12*s.* 0*d.*, does not represent an actual increase of revenue to that extent, but is partially caused by the entire receipts for the whole island being accounted for together, instead of the ward revenue being kept distinct as under the former system.

II.—*Revenue and Expenditure.*

7. The revenue of 1881 was 464,967*l.* 19*s.* 5*d.*, and was in excess of that of 1880 by 29,178*l.* 16*s.* 6*d.* The increase in 1880, as compared with 1879, was 10,694*l.* 16*s.* 1½*d.* The items of revenue to which this large increase in 1881 is due are:—

	£
Immigration - - -	4,871
Licenses - - - -	12,572
Taxes - - - -	26,778
Railway - - - -	2,753
Miscellaneous receipts - -	2,074

The deficiency in inland revenue is counterbalanced by the receipts for licenses, taxes, &c., which formerly were credited to the wards in which they were raised.

8. The expenditure of 1881 was 500,423*l.* 5*s.* 4*d.*, being an increase on that of 1880 of 41,782*l.* 15*s.* 11½*d.*, and in excess of the revenue of 1881 by 35,455*l.* 5*s.* 11*d.* This increased expenditure is principally distributed amongst the following services:—

	£
Establishments - - -	5,400
Hospitals - - - -	4,587
Education - - - -	762
Convict depôts - - -	5,492
Drawbacks - - - -	1,364
Railway working expenses - -	6,228
,, interest, and sinking fund -	7,641
Public works - - -	30,341

TRINIDAD.

The expenditure on the following services shows a decrease as compared with 1880 :—

	£
Police and gaols - - -	5,054
Immigration - - -	6,584
Miscellaneous - - -	1,490

III.—*Local Revenues.*

9. The revenue of the ward unions, which up to the year 1878 was included in this heading as being specially for local purposes, are now merged under various heads of service in the general revenue of the Colony, and the only purely local revenues are those collected by the municipal bodies of Port of Spain and San Fernando.

10. The revenue of Port of Spain was in 1881 19,805*l.* 19*s.* 3½*d.*, and in 1880 16,160*l.* 1*s.* 7½*d.*, while in 1871 it was 8,976*l.* 6*s.* 7½*d.* The expenditure for 1881 was 15,475*l.* 2*s.* 9*d.*, and for 1880 17,703*l.* 2*s.* 7*d.*, while in 1871 it was 6,698*l.* 7*s.* 1½*d.* These figures, taken in connexion with the increase of the population as shown by the census returns in 1881, will convey some idea of the growth and extension of the chief town of the island.

11. The chief sources of the revenue of the borough are :—

	£
The house rate, which realised from 1st of September 1880 to 31st August 1881 - - -	7,661
Market dues - - -	3,947
Cemetery dues - - -	1,175
Licenses of various kinds (not including spirits, which go to general revenue) - - - -	898
Sale and rents of properties - -	1,500
And the proceeds of debentures sold under an Ordinance authorising their issue for the improvement of the town - - - -	4,300

12. The principal items of the borough expenditure are :—

	£
Town improvement - - -	2,485
Markets - - - -	356
Cemeteries - - - -	520
Asylums - - - -	868
Repairing, scavenging, and lighting streets and squares - -	8,044
Vaccination and registration - -	372
Administrative Department - -	1,150
Purchase of property - -	907

13. The revenue of San Fernando for 1881 was 3,377*l.* 10*s.* 9*d.*, as compared with 3,352*l.* 1*s.* 9*d.* in 1880; the expenditure was 3,471*l.* 4*s.* 11*d.*, as compared with 4,016*l.* 16*s.* 0½*d.* in 1880. The revenue and expenditure for 1871 were 4,084*l.* 7*s.* 2*d.* and 3,860*l.* 13*s.* respectively, but these amounts include certain special receipts and expenditure for tramroads which have ceased to appear in the accounts. On a comparison of the revenue for the last 10 years with the figures for Port of Spain, as well as the population returns for the same period, it would appear that San Fernando has not made progress corresponding with that of the former town.

	£
The house assessment in San Fernando yielded in 1881 - - -	1,579
Wharf dues - - - -	603
Market dues - - -	304

The expenditure was on :—

	£
Streets - - - -	1,090
Almshouses - - - -	241
Cemetery - - - -	183

IV.—*Public Debt.*

14. The public debt was increased in 1881 by 100,000*l.*, raised under Ordinance No. 8 of 1880 for the extension of the railway to San Fernando. The amount raised for the construction of railways from 1874 to the end of 1881 was 500,000*l.*, of which 10,980*l.* was repaid. The outstanding public debt, irrespective of that incurred for railways, is only 11,700*l.*, which will very shortly be extinguished, leaving the Colony free from old obligations and with a debt which her growing resources will be amply sufficient to meet, while the object for which it has been incurred may be expected year by year more fully to develop those resources and to add to her prosperity.

V.—*Public Works.*

15. Under this heading are included works and buildings, roads and bridges, surveys of Crown lands, and the construction and repair of waterworks, besides the maintenance of a saw mill, lime kiln, transport train, and the working of quarries.

The expenditure on public works in 1881 was 108,411*l.*, being 30,341*l.* more than in 1880, and it may be divided in the following proportions :—

	£
Roads and bridges - - -	60,932
Works and buildings - -	37,950
Miscellaneous - - -	4,266
Survey of lands - - -	1,655
San Fernando waterworks - -	3,607

TRINIDAD.

The expenditure on roads consists principally of repairs to the local and main roads, but the construction of new roads and bridges is proceeding as rapidly as the Colony's funds will allow, though not by any means in proportion to the wants or demands of the several localities.

16. The principal works executed during the year were the construction of gas works at the Governor's residence, St. Ann's; the completion of the Government printing office; a new harbour master's office and commercial rooms; new house of refuge; additions to the Custom House, additions to the Royal gaol, purchase of lands at St. Ann's to be devoted to the construction of a female prison, and the completion of the San Fernando water-works.

17. On the 4th November 1881 the greater portion of the police barracks, the erection of which was completed in 1876, was accidentally destroyed by fire. The restoration of these buildings to their former condition is estimated to cost 30,000*l.*

VI.—*Railways.*

18. On the 1st January 1881 the San Fernando extension of the railway was opened as far as Claxton's Bay, which, with the Arima line, makes a length of 38¼ miles. Since the beginning of this year the line has been completed and opened for traffic to San Fernando. The entire loan authorised for railways to 31st December 1881 was 500,000*l.*, but the expenditure at that date amounted to 520,624*l.* Provision for a further loan has been made by the Ordinance No. 1 of 1882.

19. The Arima line connects Port of Spain with the eastern portion of the island for a distance of 16 miles, where it terminates in the centre of a large cacao-growing district, while beyond it is an undeveloped country, the resources of which are yet unexplored. The San Fernando line, branching off in a southerly direction at St. Joseph, intersects an extensive sugar producing range of country, and terminates at the second port in the island, where it is connected by the Guaracara tramroad with the largest and most important agricultural district in the island. The following figures will show the results of the working of the railway for 1880 and 1881:—

Year.	Receipts for Coaching.	Receipts for Goods.	Passengers carried.	Working Expenses.	Revenue.
	£	£		£	£
1880 - -	24,708	11,051	627,416	24,034	11,724
1881 - -	25,877	9,655	705,726	25,050	10,482

The decrease in the revenue of the line is due to the sugar crop or the year having been short, which reduced the traffic by

several thousand tons. This may be regarded as only one of the fluctuations of trade which must be expected, and there is reason to hope that the line will pay a fair percentage on the capital invested.

VII.—*Legislation.*

20. Twenty-three Ordinances were passed by the Legislative Council during the year, a list of the titles of which is appended :—

No. 1.—To regulate the granting of licenses for the retail of spirituous liquors.

No. 2.—To amend the law as to coroners.

No. 3.—For repealing certain Orders in Council which have ceased to be in force or have become unnecessary.

No. 4.—To amend the Harbours Ordinance 1880.

No. 5.—To regulate hackney carriages in the town of San Fernando.

No. 6.—To make provision as to the marriages and divorces of Indian immigrants.

No. 7.—To ratify and confirm the supplemental estimates for the service of the year 1880, and the issue of certain moneys paid for the service of the Government of the Colony during the same year.

No. 8.—To make further provision for defraying the expenses of the Government of this Colony for the year 1881.

No. 9.—To amend the Public Health Ordinance 1869.

No. 10.—For the protection of certain wild birds.

No. 11.—For more effectually enforcing the discipline of the police force.

No. 12.—To amend the Ordinance No. 5 for 1873, intituled an Ordinance to regulate the salary of officers administering the Government of Trinidad, and for other purposes.

No. 13.—To render applicable the provisions of the Public Land Charges Ordinance 1879 to the Diego Martin water rate.

No. 14.—To amend the Hackney Carriage (San Fernando) Ordinance 1881.

No. 15.—For repealing certain Ordinances which have ceased to be in force or have become unnecessary.

No. 16.—To repeal certain duties on rum and other spirits, and on all kinds of oils, and to raise other duties in lieu thereof.

No. 17.—To make provision for defraying the expenses of the Government of this Colony for the year 1882.

No. 18.—For raising funds in aid of immigration for the year 1882.

No. 19.—To amend the Foreign Reprints Ordinance 1879.

No. 20.—To amend the Education Ordinance 1875.

No. 21.—For prohibiting the keeping open of shops after a certain hour on Sunday.

No. 22.—For raising additional funds in aid of immigration for the year 1882.

TRINIDAD.

No. 23.—To authorise the raising of a loan of 140,300*l.* for the completion of the San Fernando Extension Railway and the construction of the Cumuto and Guaracara Railways.

21. The most important, perhaps, of these is No. 6, "to make "provision as to the marriages and divorces of Indian immi- "grants," which is an attempt to provide a remedy for the evils which lead to the frequent crime of wife-murder among the coolie population. The Ordinance No. 22, which imposed an export duty on cocoanuts, was not confirmed by Her Majesty, and the Ordinance No. 23, passed on 22nd December 1881, was repealed by a new enactment passed on the 13th January 1882, "to authorise "the raising of a loan of 120,000*l.* for the completion of the San "Fernando Extension Railway and the construction of the "Guaracara Railway."

VIII.—*Legislative Council.*

22. Mr. Charles Cleaver was appointed to the seat in the Council rendered vacant by the resignation in November 1880 of Mr. André Bernard, and by his death in July 1882 the Council has been again deprived of a useful member.

IX.—*Civil Establishment.*

23. Few changes occurred in the higher branches of the Civil Service. The Colony lost the valued services of Doctors Martin, Thompson, and Macnamara, who died of the prevailing malignant fever, and of Dr. W. Devenish, who died while absent on leave. Doctors Buchanan, Alston, Percy, and Wolseley were added to the medical staff.

Mr. B. H. Reinecker, the Auditor-General, died in August 1881, and Mr J. W. O'Brien, the Postmaster-General, was appointed to act.

Several appointments were made to subordinate posts in the Public Works Department.

X.—*Pensions.*

24. New pensions to the amount of 272*l.* 5*s.* were granted during the year, and pensions to the amount of 505*l.* 14*s.* 7*d.* lapsed by the death of the retired officers.

XI.—*Population.*

25. The decennial census was taken on the 4th April 1881, and showed a total population of 153,128, of which 83,716 were males and 69,412 females, and the number of persons in the married state was 33,882. The increase in the population as ascertained in 1871 is 43,490, or 40 per cent., and the proportion of the population to the area of the island, 1754·50 square miles,

is 87. The inhabitants of Port of Spain numbered 31,858 as against 23,561 in 1871, and San Fernando 6,335 as against 5,006. The following figures show the diversified nationalities of which the population is composed:—

Born in Trinidad (exclusive of children born of Indian parents) - -	69,307
Children born in Trinidad of Indian parents - - - -	12,809
From British Colonies - - -	24,047
„ the United Kingdom - -	1,062
„ China - - - -	1,266
„ India - - - -	36,020
„ Africa - - - -	3,035
Portuguese - - - -	709
Italians - - - - -	42
From Venezuela - - -	2,227
Other foreign countries - - -	2,083
Not described - - - -	441
Total - - -	153,128

26. The registered births of the year 1881 were 5,389, and the deaths 5,006, or an increase in the year 1880 of 43 births and 996 deaths. The increased death rate is accounted for to a great extent by the prevalence of fever of a very malignant type during the year. The normal ratio of births to the population may be taken to be $35\frac{22}{100}$ per thousand, and the death rate $26\frac{86}{100}$ per thousand. The census tables did not include any column for religious persuasions, but the following interesting facts may be mentioned as to the general occupations and condition of the population:—

There were on the 4th April 55,052 agricultural labourers and 10,728 labourers not engaged in agriculture; 8,747 mechanics and handicraftsmen, 5,838 domestic servants, 4,545 laundresses, 7,855 sempstresses, 5,081 engaged in mercantile pursuits, 2,615 planters, including managers and overseers of estates, 256 blind persons, 141 deaf and 39 dumb.

XII.—*Savings Banks and other Numerical Returns.*

27. There was deposited in the Government savings banks on 31st December 1881 by 2,825 depositors the sum of 41,499*l.* 4*s.* 7½*d.* The interest paid is 4 per cent., but at present the sum depositable is limited to 30*l.* in one year and 100*l.* in all. By an Ordinance recently passed greater facilities are proposed to be offered to depositors, and provision is made for establishing branch banks in the country districts so as to bring the advantages of these institutions within the reach of a larger number of persons, and afford increased encouragement to thrift.

TRINIDAD.

28. The number of Indian immigrants introduced into the Colony was 2,655, and 473 who were entitled to a return passage left the Colony.

29. Besides what may be called the permanent immigration which goes on from India, there is a constant influx of immigrants from the neighbouring Colonies, a large proportion of which, doubtless, leave the island again ; but there can be no doubt from the population returns that a very considerable addition is made to the labouring and artizan classes of the inhabitants of Trinidad by this means, and that this species of immigration, while it adds to our material prosperity, must be also taken into account in any examination into the increase of crime.

XIII.—*Education.*

30. There are two colleges for higher education, the Queen's Royal College, entirely supported by the Government, and the College of the Immaculate Conception, conducted by the Roman Catholic Church and liberally aided by the Government. In these at the end of the year there were 50 and 137 students respectively. The number at the Queen's Royal College was below the average on account of the unhealthy state of the island.

31. The number of students in the Normal Training School was 19, and the pupils in the Boys' Model School numbered 141, while the number in the Girls' School was 133. Besides these there were in Port of Spain the Kindergarten School, with 38 pupils and three Primary Schools with an attendance of 442. There are altogether 50 primary schools supported entirely by the Government with an average attendance of 3,201, and 48 assisted schools, 13 under the care of the Church of England, 25 Roman Catholic, 1 Baptist, and 9 Coolie mission schools, with an average attendance of 3,977, besides a school maintained by the Borough Council of San Fernando, 2 orphan asylums, and 20 estates schools supported by the Presbyterian Church for children of Indian immigrants. The total number of children attending public schools may be stated at 9,056, but there are several private schools, the attendance at which has not been ascertained.

32. The results of the examination held in January 1881 of the students of the Queen's Royal College and the College of the Immaculate Conception were satisfactory. One student from the latter passed in third-class honours, and one from the former in first-class honours. To the first named an exhibition of 150*l.* per annum for three years was granted, and to the second a minor exhibition of 50*l.*, owing to his being below the prescribed age. An exhibition for three years has since been awarded to this student and to two others who passed in December 1881.

33. The expenditure on public education in 1881 was 12,985*l.* 16*s.* 11½*d.*, besides the salaries of the inspector of schools and his staff, the masters of the Queen's Royal College, the superintendents of the model schools, and the expenses generally of higher education.

XIV.—*Imports and Exports.*

34. The annexed tabular statement shows the value of imports into and exports from the island in 1880 and 1881:—

Year.	Imports.	Exports.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1880 - - -	2,382,632 17 0	2,185,512 4 0
1881 - - -	2,226,276 7 0	2,099,101 9 0

35. The imports are thus classified:—

	£ s.
From the United Kingdom -	828,443 19
„ British Colonies -	229,211 9
„ Foreign Countries -	1,168,620 19
	2,226,276 7

36. The exports may be thus subdivided:—

Where shipped.	Produce and Manufacture of the Colony.	British, Foreign, and Colonial Produce.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
To United Kingdom - -	764,603 15 0	231,321 0 0
„ British Colonies - -	88,271 5 0	23,745 3 0
„ Foreign Countries - -	286,272 8 0	704,887 18 0
	1,139,147 8 0	959,954 1 0
Total - -	2,099,101 9 0	

37. The value and amount of the staples and manufactures of the Colony exported in 1880 and 1881 are shown in the annexed table:—

Description.	1880.		1881.	
	Amount.	Value.	Amount.	Value.
		£		£
Sugar - - Tons	53,384	858,081	43,608	668,153
Cocoa - - Lbs.	10,999,385	302,358	10,809,796	266,613
Coffee - - „	35,130	1,039	41,870	1,175
Molasses - Gals.	1,509,226	44,357	1,417,550	46,908
Rum - - „	28,793	2,510	935	103
Asphalt - - Ton	22,926	25,213	26,605	29,271
Cocoanuts - -	4,227,276	14,192	6,644,218	20,924
Bitters - - Galls	23,614	23,702	28,708	28,708
Cotton, raw - Bales	—	—	20	60
Cocoanut fibre - Lbs.	3,021	39	5,460	27

XV.—*Shipping.*

38. The number of sailing vessels which entered at ports in this island during 1881 was 1,977, with a tonnage of 133,590; and the number of steam vessels which entered was 245, with a tonnage of 280,486. During the year 1,976 sailing vessels, with a tonnage of 140,018, and 244 steamers, with a tonnage of 279,785, cleared from ports in the Colony. While there is a decrease of 485 vessels and of 13,675 tons as compared with 1880 in the sailing vessels entered, there is a decrease of only three in the number of steam vessels, and of 12,358 in their tonnage, as compared with 1880.

39. When the restrictions put upon trade by the quarantine regulations during a great part of the year are taken into consideration, there will be no difficulty in accounting for the diminution observable in the import, export, and shipping returns, and also in the revenue, which is so much dependent on free commercial intercourse with the neighbouring Colonies.

XVI.—*Agriculture, Grants of Lands.*

40. During 1881, 7,479 acres of Crown lands were sold or granted, yielding a revenue of 11,682*l.*, and with the increased immigration from other Colonies, and the opening up of the country by railway extension the demand for Crown lands is on the increase. The establishment of cocoa estates on the lands acquired from the Crown gives promise of a large addition in the course of a few years to the supply of this important staple, while the cultivation of coffee is gradually increasing; and thus the Colony will in time to come not be entirely dependent for its prosperity upon its chief staple, the sugar cane, but by the development of new industries and the improvement of the already high degree of excellence which the cocoa cultivation has attained the Colony's future progress may be more fully assured.

XVII.—*Gaols and Prisoners.*

41. During 1881, 3,966 prisoners were committed to the Royal gaol, and the daily average number in prison was 369. Of persons committed, only 2,947 were convicted of offences and these offences are thus classified by the Inspector of Prisons:—

Offences against immigration laws - -	935
Contraventions of municipal and sanitary regulations - - - -	42
Breaches of revenue and excise laws -	5
Contraventions of police regulations -	801
Misdemeanors - - - -	1,047
Crimes or felonies - - - -	117

Of the 2,947 convicted during the year, only 575, or 19·51 per cent., were natives of Trinidad, the greater portion of the prisoners being Indian immigrants and natives of the neighbouring Colonies, of whom the population is so largely composed.

XVIII.—*Criminal Statistics.*

42. The total number of offences reported to the police or to the magistrates during 1881 was 16,665, or only 83 more than in 1880, but the number of acquittals was less in the inferior courts in 1881 than in 1880.

The convictions under summary process were - - - - -	8,962
By the superior courts - - -	99
	9,061

The largest class of defined offences which came before the magistrates are under the Masters and Servants Act, and breaches of the labour laws by Indian immigrants, and next in numerical order are offences against the person, common assaults, &c. This latter class of crime, in an aggravated form, is the chief subject of inquiry at the criminal sessions of the Supreme Court, and it is to be regretted that the figures of 1881 show an increase on 1880, while the cases of murder do not appear to diminish. On the whole, however, the statistics of 1881, viewed in connexion with the gaol returns and the constant accessions to the population, do not appear to me to show any extraordinary increase of crime.

XIX.—*Hospitals.*

43. Owing to the prevalence of a malignant and fatal type of fever throughout the island in 1881 the returns of the hospitals may be expected to bear unfavourable comparison with those of previous years.

44. The Lunatic Asylum, from its position and the peculiar class of its inmates, does not seem to have been injuriously affected. The following figures show the condition of this institution :—

	1880.	1881.
Admissions - - -	101	104
Discharged cured - -	40	36
Deaths - - -	35	30

The number of inmates remaining on 31st December 1881 was 158 males and 118 females, or a total of 276, as against 134 males and 108 females, or a total of 242 on 31st December 1880.

The following tables show the working of the several hospitals for 1880 and 1881.

TRINIDAD.

Colonial Hospital, Port of Spain.

—	Admitted.	Discharged.	Deaths.
1880 - -	3,478	3,000	428
1881 - -	3,668	3,174	528

San Fernando Hospital.

—	Admitted.	Discharged.	Deaths.
1880 - -	1,685	1,524	154
1881 - -	2,120	1,954	239

Leper Asylum.

—	Admitted.	Discharged.	Deaths.
1880 - -	46	20	18
1881 - -	50	28	26

House of Refuge.

—	Admitted.	Discharged.	Deaths.
1880 - -	56	28	28
1881 - -	112	35	19

46. The expenditure upon hospitals during 1881 was 28,774*l.*, as against 24,187*l.* in 1880.

XX.—*Manufactures.*

47. Three vessels, all of small tonnage, were built in the Colony during the year.

XXI.—*General Remarks.*

48. I have already mentioned that the sugar crop was not as productive as usual in 1881. This circumstance always exerts a reflex action upon all other interests, and affects temporarily, but unmistakably, the general prosperity.

49. But another event of the year must be recorded which was not only very disastrous in its effects upon trade but which brought death and desolation to many homes and will make 1881 a year to be long remembered. For nearly six months of the year yellow fever or fever of a most malignant and fatal type prevailed in almost every part of the Colony, cutting off both young and old, Europeans and natives of the island, and even Indian immigrants on some of the estates. The Government lost several valuable public servants, including the Auditor-General and three medical officers, besides others who gave promise of useful service, and all ranks of society were invaded by the epidemic. As fever of a similar type prevailed in several of the neighbouring Colonies, quarantine regulations were enforced against them, and in turn by them against Trinidad, interrupting the ordinary communication and to a great extent paralysing commerce.

50. One other event of the year which must be referred to was the disturbances in connexion with the carnival, which marred the tranquillity of the island, and for a short time seemed likely to interfere with the harmony which existed among the different classes of the population. The circumstances connected with the disturbances formed the subject of special inquiry by Mr. R. G. C. Hamilton, the Commissioner appointed by your Lordship, and while there was no question that excesses had been committed, there was no reason to believe that there was any organized opposition to authority or anything more than a temporary ebullition of feeling against the police. By a conciliatory policy on the part of the Government, combined with due precautionary measures, the carnival of the present year passed off without the slightest disorder, and the character of the community, as a peaceable, loyal, and law-abiding people, has been maintained and reasserted.

51. There must, in the history of every country, be periods of comparative depression and retrogression, and years marked by events which obscure the political horizon, but there is no cause to doubt the actual progress which is being made; on the contrary, there are abundant signs of real and substantial prosperity, and with the recurrence of fruitful seasons there is the prospect of a bright future for Trinidad.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. SCOTT BUSHE,
Administrator.

The Right Hon.
The Earl of Kimberley,
&c. &c.

Barbados.

BARBADOS.

No. 7.

Governor Robinson, C.M.G., to the Right Hon. the Earl of Kimberley.

My Lord, Barbados, June 28, 1882.

I have the honour to forward a report by the Colonial Secretary on the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1881.

2. The Blue Book is now in the hands of the printers, and when finished shall be forwarded without delay.

I have, &c.

(Signed) William Robinson.

The Right Hon.
The Earl of Kimberley,
&c. &c.

Report on Barbados Blue Book, 1881.

Finance.

	£	*s.*	*d.*
1. The balance on 1st January 1881 was	16,692	6	0
The revenue for 1881 was - -	132,941	19	8
Making a total of - -	149,634	5	8
The expenditure for 1881 was - -	133,367	2	11½
Leaving a balance on 31st December 1881 of - - - -	16,267	2	8½

2. Of the expenditure, 4,232*l.* was incurred in compensation on abolition of office, commutation of pensions, expenses of fever hospital, &c. The ordinary expenditure amounted to 129,134*l.*, which shows an excess of revenue of 3,807*l.*

3. The revenue of 1881 exceeded the average revenue of the previous three years by 500*l.*, notwithstanding the fact that it was to a certain extent affected by the epidemic of yellow fever and the quarantine restrictions which were consequently imposed on the intercolonial trade by the neighbouring colonies. The improvement of the revenue is due to the operation of the tariff brought into force in 1879, which is only now beginning to have its full effect.

4. The revenue and expenditure may be tabulated thus:—

—	Customs.	Other Receipts.	Total.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Revenue - -	86,018 8 4	46,923 11 4	132,941 19 8

—	Salaries.	Other Expenditure.	Total.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Expenditure - -	61,048 7 0½	72,318 15 11	133,367 2 11½

5. The assets of the Colony on 31st December 1881 amounted to 29,986*l.*, and there were no liabilities.

Local Revenues.

6. The local revenues amounted to 33,095*l.* 11*s.* 0½*d.*, and the expenditure to 31,455*l.* 11*s.* 6*d.* This, as has been frequently remarked, is too large a revenue and expenditure to be left with advantage to chance administration.

7. The following table shows the growth of revenue as compared with population:—

Year.	Colonial Revenue.	Local Revenue.	Population.	Revenue per Head of Population.
	£	£		£ s. d.
1831 - -	18,735	25,037	—	—
1841 - -	66,434	No return.	†110,500	—
1851 - -	55,725	*18,866	135,939	0 10 11½
1861 - -	98,049	*21,706	152,275	0 15 8½
1871 - -	119,492	31,136	161,594	0 18 7½
1881 - -	132,941	33,095	171,860	0 19 3¾

* Inclusive of 6,000*l.* estimated cost of highways.
† Estimated by the bishop and clergy.

Legislation.

8. Twenty-eight Acts were passed during the year 1881.

9. The main feature of the legislation of the year was the Executive Committee Act, which revolutionises the financial procedure of the Colony. Previous to the passing of this Act it was competent for any member of the House to propose a money vote. Expenditure was in the hands of practically irresponsible Boards composed of members of the Legislature. The principal board was not restricted in the amount of its expenditure, provided it expended money on certain specified objects, whereas,

BARBADOS.

if any unforeseen expenditure became necessary, it could not legally be incurred without resorting to the House of Assembly for that special purpose. The inevitable result was chronic disorganization of the public service, haphazard financial administration, extravagance in some directions, niggardliness in others, and serious interruption to the ordinary course of business in the Assembly. The Executive Committee Act sweeps away the old Boards, and provides for the appointment of a committee composed of the Governor in Executive Council, associated with a member of Legislative Council and four members of Assembly. This committee prepares the annual estimates and controls the expenditure. No money vote can be proposed in the Assembly without its concurrence. The financial business of the year, instead of being spread over the whole session, is disposed of at two or three sittings, and the time of the Legislature is rendered available for the consideration of questions of general legislation.

10. The Public Works Loan Act, which was passed during the year, is one of the first-fruits of the Executive Committee Act. This Act provides for the raising of a loan not exceeding 45,000*l.* and the application of a large portion of the Treasury balances to the construction of certain much needed public works.

11. Previous to the passing of the Executive Committee Act it would have been impossible to pass a measure of this kind. When it was introduced it only occupied two sittings of the House.

12. Another advantage arising from the establishment of an Executive Committee is that legislation originating with the Government is regarded with less suspicion than formerly. All Government measures are, before being brought before the House, submitted to the criticism of the Executive Committee. When the measures come before the House, the unofficial members of the Committee are fully acquainted with the motives of the Government in bringing them forward, and can explain them to other members of the House. The ease with which the International Postal Union Act, the Emigration Act, and other useful measures were passed last year is mainly due to this cause.

13. An Act was passed during the year to regulate the law of distraint by providing that all distrained goods sold should be sold at a particular hour on a particular day in each week by auctioneers appointed by the Government. It is hoped that this amendment of the law will tend to minimize the abuses which had sprung out of the old system of sales by practically irresponsible persons.

14. An Act was also passed to reconstitute the staff of the Public Market, and to provide for the more convenient administration of that establishment. Under this Act the management of the market has been considerably improved, and as soon as the contemplated additions to the buildings are completed the state of the market will leave little to be desired.

15. The Windward Islands Court of Appeal Amendment Act was passed in order to remove an anomaly which existed previous to the passing of this Act. When, on hearing an appeal from the

judgment of an inferior court, the judges of the Court of Appeal were equally divided in opinion, there was no existing method by which the judgment of the court below could be enforced. Under the new Act when the judges of the Court of Appeal are equally divided in opinion the judgment of the court below stands affirmed.

Civil Establishment.

16. The Governor-in-Chief proceeded to England on three months leave of absence, from 30th September.

The Government was meanwhile administered by Colonel Harley, C.B., Lieutenant Governor of Grenada.

17. Captain Skinner, R.E., resigned the post of Superintendent of Public Works in June, and Mr. Charles Messervy, of the Trinidad Public Works Department, was appointed to succeed him.

18. Mr. John Cook was appointed Judge of the Bridgetown Petty Debt Court, Mr. Alfred Kingdon, Police Magistrate of District "D.," Mr. W. Monnington, Police Magistrate of District "C.," and Mr. H. S. Seon, Junior Police Magistrate of Bridgetown, in the early part of the year.

19. The Right Reverend John Mitchinson, D.D., Bishop of Barbados and the Windward Islands, resigned the see of Barbados in June.

20. Mr. J. W. Carrington was appointed President of the Education Board in succession to Bishop Mitchinson.

21. Several minor changes took place in the Civil Service of the Colony during the year.

Councils and Assembly.

22. Mr. C. C. Knollys was appointed a member of the Executive Council.

23. Mr. Augustus Briggs was appointed President and Messrs. C. C. Knollys (Auditor General), Oswald Jones and William Henry Jones, members of the Legislative Council.

24. At the elections which took place in March 1881, two new members were elected to the House of Assembly, viz., Mr. E. P. Trotman in the place of Mr. John F. Marsh and Mr. W. K. Chandler in the place of Dr. C. C. Grunidge.

25. During the course of the session Mr. J. W. Carrington was elected to the vacancy caused by the appointment of Mr. F. Fleming (Attorney General) to another post in the Colonial Service.

26. The Executive Committee was composed of the following members in addition to the Governor in Executive Council: Mr. Oswald Jones of the Legislative Council and Messrs. Conrad Reeves, John Connell, A. J. Pile, and James W. Parris of the Assembly. During the session Mr. John Connell went to England on leave, and his place was filled by the appointment of Mr. J Thomas Jones.

BARBADOS.

Population.

27. The total number of baptisms during the decennial period 1871–1881 was 74,747. The burials during the same period were 41,756, showing an excess of 32,991 of baptisms over burials.

28. The population by census of 1881 was 171,860; that by census of 1871 was 162,042, showing an actual increase of 9,128.

29. The difference between the actual and calculated increase as above is 24,173; the number of persons who may be assumed to have left the Colony for good during the decade about 2,400 a year.

30. It is worthy of note that, although the net increase of the population during the decade amounts to 9,128, the number of agricultural labourers was less by 40 in 1881 than in 1871. Increases appear under the head of scholars (11,848), unemployed adults (1,459), seamstresses (so called) (1,132), mechanics and artizans (1,138), which, taken with a decrease of 5,200 in the number of "persons under 15 unemployed," and other (small) fluctuations, account for the net increase of 9,128.

31. The large increase under the head of scholars* and the decrease in the number of persons under 15 unemployed, are doubtless due to the impetus which has recently been given to education. These changes are satisfactory, but the decrease in the number of agricultural labourers, and the increases in the number of unemployed adults and of so-called seamstresses are to be regretted. Barbados was ten years ago described as overcrowded, and during the last ten years the density of the population was increased from 966 to 1,035 to the square mile. That the number of a class earning its daily bread by honest labour should meanwhile have decreased, whilst the number of those who have no visible means of support (and in this category probably 50 per cent. of the so-called seamstresses may be included) should have increased, is a matter for serious consideration.

32. The emigration offices established here by British Guiana and Antigua have sent away a great many of our agricultural labourers, but these Colonies are not anxious to relieve us of our idlers, nor are the idlers anxious to take advantage of our own emigration acts and to leave us, so long as they can keep body and soul together without working.

33. The cost of food in Barbados is so small, and the wants of this class in the matter of clothing, fuel, &c. in this genial climate so few, that it is comparatively easy for them to obtain the means of subsistence, and it is to be feared that unless the punishment of petty larceny, and especially prædial larceny, can be made more severe, prison discipline more strict and deterrent, and the action of the law (now somewhat hampered by the indefinite and in

* NOTE.—The return of scholars under the Census is probably above the mark.

some respects undesirable powers of the Assistant Court of Appeal) more prompt and certain, the unemployed adults will continue to increase in number to the detriment of the honest labourer and the serious embarrassment of the Colony. Steps have recently been taken to improve the discipline of the prisons. The hours of labour have been lengthened, and the Legislature has voted 12,000*l.* for the construction of separate cell accommodation.

34. During 1881 Barbados was visited by an epidemic of yellow fever, the first since 1852.* The number of burials during the year is returned at 6,236, being 2,546 above the average of the previous nine years. The large majority of these deaths were amongst infants and young children, who succumbed to the attacks of an epidemic of diarrhœa and dysentery, which appeared about the same time as the yellow fever.

35. In the absence of a proper system of registration of births and deaths, or of a Government medical department, it is impossible to give any reliable statistics of the epidemic of yellow fever. The leading medical men have, however, been asked to draw up a report which should prove both interesting and useful. In the meanwhile it may safely be said that the virulence of the epidemic has been greatly exaggerated in the English press, and that although there was undoubtedly a great deal of sickness during the year, and many painful domestic tragedies were recorded, the actual number of deaths from yellow fever amongst the civilian population was not nearly so great as has been supposed.

Trade.

36. The intercolonial trade was somewhat interfered with during the last five months of the year, by the quarantine restrictions imposed by the neighbouring colonies.

37. The trade with the United Kingdom and North America was in its normal condition.

38. The following table shows the value and direction of trade:

Value.

Countries.	Imports from			Exports to		
	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*
United Kingdom - -	433,839	14	9	454,601	8	3
British North America - -	101,583	11	1	207,628	13	4
West Indies and British Guiana -	80,470	15	7	189,641	12	3
United States - - -	451,385	0	8	273,766	6	11
Other countries - - - -	51,933	10	8	14,723	5	8
Total - -	1,119,212	12	9	1,140,361	6	5

* There were a few cases at the garrison in 1862.

BARBADOS.

39. The export trade may be divided as follows :—

	£	s.	d.
Staple (sugar and molasses) -	934,491	12	6
Other produce of the Colony -	7,656	11	9
Re-exports - - -	198,213	2	2
Total - - -	1,140,361	6	5

Crime.

40. The convictions during 1881 were somewhat below the average. Larceny, however, (especially prædial larceny) and offences against the person (aggravated assaults) continue to increase. There was a decrease in the number of cane fires, probably due to the fact that many of the cane-fields are insured. To deal effectually with prædial larceny, under the peculiar circumstances of this Colony, is a problem involving many serious difficulties.

41. Prison discipline has recently been made more stringent, and the hours of prison labour have been extended. It is hoped that the reformatory, which is about to be established, may lessen the supply of youthful idlers, the source from which the criminal population is drawn. The census of 1881 shows that, apart from inmates of public institutions, there are in Barbados over 5,000 adults without employment and without visible means of support. These idlers cannot urge deficiency of employment as an excuse; the demand for labour has been exceptionally brisk during the last eighteen months. They live by thieving and begging, and it is worthy of consideration whether, in the interests of the community, the punishment of theft should not be made more severe, certain, and effectual than it is at present.

42. The usual return of cane-fires is appended.

(Signed) WALTER HELY HUTCHINSON,
Barbados, June 28th, 1882. Colonial Secretary.

RETURN of CANE FIRES, 1st January 1876 to 31st May 1882.

Parish.	Number of Fires. Period from 1st January to 30th June 1876.	1st July 1876 to 30th June 1877.	1st July 1877 to 30th June 1878.	1st July 1878 to 30th June 1879.	1st July 1879 to 30th June 1880.	1st July 1880 to 30th June 1881.	1st July 1881 to 31st May 1882.
St. Michael	19	18	20	5	11	19	6
St. Philip	9	32	33	26	47	27	36
St. John	6	12	16	3	10	23	7
St. George	16	39	18	10	8	20	22
Christ Church	5	21	40	16	30	25	8
St. Thomas	20	11	15	4	10	14	5
St. James	4	7	4	5	4	11	2
St. Peter	4	10	7	4	—	6	1
St. Lucy	8	13	17	5	8	21	8
St. Andrew	6	13	14	—	5	5	13
St. Joseph	5	8	3	7	6	10	8
Total	102	184	187	85	139	181	116

continued.

Parish.	Number of Acres burnt. Period from 1st January to 30th June 1876.	1st July 1876 to 30th June 1877.	1st July 1877 to 30th June 1878.	1st July 1878 to 30th June 1879.	1st July 1879 to 30th June 1880.	1st July 1880 to 30th June 1881.	1st July 1881 to 31st May 1882.
St. Michael	71	29	43¼	18¾	40	34	13½
St. Philip	38¾	76½	129¼	54½	66⅓	65	45¼
St. John	20¼	48	92¾	7¾	37½	55¾	5
St. George	60¾	92	58¾	18¼	6½	33¾	37¾
Christ Church	11¾	35½	76	31½	56	52	18
St. Thomas	33¼	19¾	35½	5½	19½	28	0½
St. James	10¼	34¾	7	7¼	7	15	8
St. Peter	11¼	30	20½	18¾	—	8½	0 1/12
St. Lucy	23¾	22½	43¾	8½	3	27¼	7¼
St. Andrew	17¾	21¾	18½	—	9¼	2¼	34
St. Joseph	7¾	7¾	11	22½	9¾	8½	6
Total	306½	417½	536¼	193¼	254 5/6	330	175½

J. ELLIOTT,
Inspector-General of Police.

St. Vincent.

ST. VINCENT.

No. 8.

Governor Robinson, C.M.G., to the Right Hon. the Earl of Kimberley.

Barbados, June 12, 1882.

I have the honour to forward a despatch from Lieutenant Governor Gore reporting on the Blue Book of St. Vincent for

I have, &c.

(Signed) William Robinson,
Governor.

The Right Hon.
The Earl of Kimberley,
&c. &c.

Government House, St. Vincent,
May 27, 1882.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward my report upon the Blue Book of St. Vincent for 1881 for the information of the Right Hon. the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Taxes, Duties, Fees.

2. The taxes and fees remained at the same rates as in 1880; but the duties on imports were very generally altered, the tariff of 1875 having been revised. The principle adopted being to substitute specific for *ad valorem* duties wherever possible.

Revenue and Expenditure.

3. The revenue of 1881 amounted to 30,637*l.* against 32,034*l.* in 1880; a falling off of 1,397*l.* arising from diminished importations owing to short crops, affecting also the tonnage dues and export taxes. The expenditure, however, in 1881 was 31,044*l.* against 32,890*l.* in 1880, a diminution of 1,846*l.*; the chief savings having been effected upon the votes for public works.

Local Revenues.

4. The city of Kingstown raised a revenue amounting to 763*l.* in 1881, which was spent in repairs to the market and slaughter-houses, on the streets, and in scavenging and sanitary operations.

5. In the small towns rates were also levied and expended as follows:—

—	Receipts.	Payments.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Georgetown - - -	85 13 11	80 17 8
Calliaqua - - - -	35 12 0	37 8 3
Layou - - - -	4 6 3	4 5 4
Barrouallie - - -	35 5 9	24 16 7
Chateaubelain - - -	29 5 11	19 13 8
Total - -	190 3 10	167 1 6

Public Debt.

6. The only public debt is the sum of 2,000*l.* borrowed from the savings bank, upon which three per cent. interest is paid. The Legislature is pledged to vote 500*l.* a year in repayment until 1885, when the debt will have been extinguished. Against this liability I may remark that the town of Kingstown owes the Colony a little over 3,400*l.*, advanced in 1870 for the construction of waterworks.

Military Expenditure.

7. No militia taxes are levied in St. Vincent, and the only expenditure under the above heading (exclusive of the salary of the Garrison Adjutant, which appointment for some years past has been a sinecure, and which I have abolished) was 12*l.* in the payment of the armourer who has charge of the militia arms and field pieces.

Public Works.

8. The total amount expended on public works was 1,956*l.*, of which 1,391*l.* went towards the completion of the new public hospital, and on indispensable repairs to the retaining wall at the Escape pasture and for the renewal of the Argyle bridge, both on the Windward road which connects Georgetown and the Charib country with the city of Kingstown and theLeeward district.

Legislation.

9. Twelve Ordinances were passed and assented to in 1881, of which it is only necessary to notice the following:—

No. 1. *The Census Ordinance.*

The abstracts prepared under the provisions of this Ordinance showed an increase during the last decade of 4,860 souls, but I am satisfied that from 400 to 500 males should be added, owing to the temporary absence, when the Census was being taken, from

ST. VINCENT.

the Grenadine Islands and St. Vincent of a corresponding number of labourers. In support of this opinion I may mention that the compiler of the Census reports as follows:—

"Emigration of male labour from the Grenadines at this season of the year to Trinidad must be very great. At Ashton estate, Union Island, out of a male population of 205 there are only 40 returned under 60 and over 10 years of age, clearly indicating that only old men and young boys, with the female population, are left in the island. The proportion at Mayreau is about the same, while at 'Canonan,' with a population of 418, there are only 36 males between 60 and 10 years."

This exodus is explained on account of the general failure of "ground provisions" in 1881, which caused the male inhabitants to seek employment and food in Grenada and Trinidad.

No. 7. *The Postal Union Ordinance.*

This enactment has enabled St. Vincent to enter the International Postal Union, and reduces very generally the rates of postage from one shilling to fourpence, although 300*l.* has been voted by the Legislature to meet the possible loss which this diminution of rates may entail. I am not without hopes that this Colony will not for any lengthened period be called upon to place this item on the annual estimates.

No. 8. *The Imports Tariff Ordinance.*

The Imports Tariff Act of 1875 was revised by the present Ordinance, but experience already shows the necessity for amending the rates of some of the duties imposed under the new tariff.

No. 10. *The Spirit Duties Ordinance.*

This Ordinance increases the duty on rum from two shillings to three shillings a gallon, and is estimated to yield an increase of from 1,500*l.* to 2,000*l.*; while the revenue derived from the duty on stills will be increased by about 500*l.*, as formerly stills (whatever their capacity) were only taxed at one pound each; whilst under the Ordinance of 1881 they will pay a licence of one shilling a gallon according to capacity.

Councils.

10. The only change was the appointment, in the Executive Council, of Captain Denton on the 5th of December.

Education.

Return showing certain Statistics of Education for the last five years.

Year.	No. of Scholars.	No. of Schools.	Expenditure in aid of State-aided Schools.
			£ s. d.
1877 - -	3,273	61	1,499 5 6
1878 - -	3,661	64	1,840 17 8
1879 - -	3,965	67	1,806 9 5
1880 - -	4,146	68	1,832 2 2
1881 - -	4,032	66	1,868 3 5

11. From the above table it will be seen that the expenditure on account of education has been steady during the last four years; the sudden rise from 1,499*l.* in 1877 to 1,840*l.* in 1878 must be attributed to a change in the system of payment of schoolmasters and mistresses.

12. During the last five years there has been an increase of 759 children attending State-aided schools; but I find that there are still a very large proportion of the children of the labouring population who do not attend school, and I also find that in a large majority of cases there are two or three schools situated close to one another, in fact competing (being of different denominations), this I think has been a great mistake; one good school, with pupil-teachers to assist the master, would, in my opinion, be far preferable, and I propose to urge this subject upon the consideration of the Board of Education, as a considerable saving might be effected by the consolidation of schools, and a better class of teachers would be secured if the masters' salaries were improved, as they would necessarily be, by the proposed change.

13. No doubt the patrons of these denominational schools will oppose my scheme, but on the score of economy I think it ought to be carried out.

Imports and Exports.

14. The value of imports and exports for the last five years is as follows:—

Year.	Imports.	Exports.	Quantities.	
			Sugar.	Arrowroot.
	£	£	Hhds.	Barrels.
1877 - -	132,009	175,880	8,602	17,800
1878 - -	136,774	161,557	8,578	18,725
1879 - -	141,958	160,334	9,977	14,853
1880 - -	134,582	158,940	9,133	14,692
1881 - -	114,785	138,712	7,981	13,244

ST. VINCENT.

15. Taking the average of the four preceding years it will be found that in 1881 there is a falling off of 21,545*l.* on the value of imports, but as 1879 was an exceptionally good year I have compared 1881 with 1877, an average year, and find that even then there is a falling off to the extent of about 17,200*l.* upon the value of imports, chiefly under the following heads:—

	£
Fish, dried and pickled -	3,490
Candles - - -	1,207
White pine and spruce - -	2,435
Wood hoops and staves -	1,441
Unenumerated goods - -	8,325
Total - -	16,898

16. I have added a return of the crops of sugar and arrowroot to this table, showing the sympathy that exists between produce and imports. Part of the falling off upon imports in 1881 may, however, be attributed to the operation of quarantine, which greatly interfered with trade between St. Vincent and the neighbouring Colonies, but chiefly with Barbados, which is the emporium from which the wants of the neighbouring islands are largely supplied.

17. I am, therefore, not without hopes that the falling off in imports is to this extent abnormal, and that 1882 may see some recovery under this head.

18. On the whole the price of sugar was good during the year, but that of arrowroot was unusually low.

19. Before dismissing this subject I ought to explain that the great diminution in the value of exports shown in these tables, between exports of 1877 and those of 1881, may to a very great extent be attributed to the article arrowroot, which is subject to great fluctuations in the home market. In 1877 the value of the 17,802 barrels of arrowroot exported was set down at 40,104*l.* or about 2*l.* 5*s.* a barrel, whilst in 1881 that of 13,244 barrels was only 19,864*l.* or 1*l.* 10*s.* per barrel.

Shipping.

20. The tonnage for the last five years is as follows:—

	Inwards.	Outwards.
1877 - - - -	21,289	20,742
1878 - - - -	20,646	20,462
1879 - - - -	22,464	22,014
1880 - - - -	57,386	59,247
1881 - - - -	76,059	46,284

21. At first the figures for 1880 and 1881 would seem incorrect, but they are thus to be explained. Prior to the passing of the Tonnage Dues Ordinance, 1880, which came into operation in the middle of June of that year, steam vessels neither entered nor cleared. Subsequently this class of ships were treated like any other merchant vessels, but only whenever they land or embark cargo at St. Vincent.

22. Now as the Royal Mail steamers always bring cargo and seldom if ever take any away, the number of steamers entering exceeds very largely the number clearing. Take, for example, the following statement for the month of July 1880, by which it will be seen that in one month the discrepancy in the number of vessels was four and in the amount of tonnage 5,502. This was the first month's operations under the new system, and it happened that the number of steamers was unusually great, and that there was a large emigrant ship which only landed one ton of goods and was entered, but as she only embarked return immigrants she did not clear.

Statement.

—	Tons of Goods.	Tons Register.	—
S.S. "Kaiteur" - - -	65	803	Entered only.
R.M.S. "Dee" - - -	31	1,858	Do.
S.S. "Kaiteur" - - -	3	803	Cleared only.
Ship "Hourah" - - -	1	1,098	Entered only.
S.S. "Potaro" - - -	66	810	Do.
R.M.S. "Solent" - - -	7	1,908	Do.
S.S. "Potaro" - - -	1	810	Do.
" " - - -	1	810	Cleared only.
R.M.S. "Solent" - - -	4	1,908	Do.
R.M.S. "Severn" - -	40	1,736	Entered only.
Total - -	219	12,544	

		Tons.
Vessels entered	- 7	- 9,023
" cleared	- 3	- 3,521
	4	5,502

Criminal Statistics.

23. These returns show a decrease during the last four years in the number of offences reported to the police and of persons brought before the police magistrates.

24. Offences against the person have decreased from 351 in 1878 to 248 in 1881, whilst in the Superior Courts they have fallen to 7 in 1881 as compared with 18 in 1878.

ST. VINCENT.

25. I regret, however, that the 1881 tables show a considerably increased number of prædial larcenies. I trust that a recourse to peremptory imprisonment in all such cases (which at a conference of the police magistrates of the Colony it has been agreed upon to try) will have the desired effect, although no doubt at first the cost of the maintenance of so many prisoners in gaol will increase the expenditure under the head of "gaols and prisoners."

Hospitals.

26. The average number of patients admitted into the Colonial Hospital during the last five years was 455, and that of deaths 30. In 1881 there were 443 admissions and 33 deaths, of which 57 per cent. must be attributed to diarrhœa, dropsy, and pulmonary complaints.

General.

27. The rainfall for 1881 (98 inches, 64 parts) fell short of the average of the five preceding years by 13 inches and 28 parts.

28. January, February, and March 1881 were unusually dry months, which very materially damaged the yield of the canes, so that the crop of 1881 was but a poor one.

29. My attention has of late been directed to the falling off in volume of the springs which had hitherto sufficed to supply the city of Kingstown with water, and I have instructed the Attorney-General to prepare an Ordinance, with much more stringent provisions than those of the Act now in force, for restraining the cutting down of trees.

30. Although I do not think that at present the rainfall is affected, I am satisfied that the springs are drying up for want of the shelter and protection which the trees formerly afforded to the lands in which they took their rise, and I am informed that the remark is general amongst planters that the supply of water is also gradually falling off both in the small rivers and numerous watercourses of the Colony.

31. It is, therefore, high time that the trees which shade the sources of much of the fertility of the Colony should be more effectually protected from the depredations of charcoal burners and others, but nothing will put a *stop* to these depredations until the Crown lands have been surveyed, their boundaries ascertained, and rangers appointed to keep the boundaries open and to protect the Crown forests of the interior.

I have, &c.

(Signed) AUGUSTUS FREDK. GORE,
Lieutenant-Governor.

His Excellency
Governor Robinson, C.M.G.
&c. &c. &c.

GRENADA.

No. 9.

Governor ROBINSON, C.M.G., to the Right Hon. the EARL OF KIMBERLEY.

Barbados, June 29, 1882.

Forwarded.

The Right Hon.
The Earl of Kimberley,
&c. &c.

WILLIAM ROBINSON.

SIR, Government House, June 20, 1882.

I HAVE the honour to forward to your Excellency my report on the Blue Book of Grenada for the year 1881.

I have, &c.

(Signed) IRWIN C. MALING,
Administrator.

His Excellency
The Governor-in-Chief, C.M.G.,
&c. &c.

Revenue and Expenditure.

I am glad to be able to report that the financial condition of the Colony was satisfactory. The general revenue for the year was in excess of all previous years. It exceeded the estimated revenue by 1,142*l.* 2*s.* 2*d.*, and surpassed the revenue of 1880 by 1,497*l.* 0*s.* 5*d.*, thus indicating the continued and progressive prosperity of the Colony. This excess principally occurs under the heads of "Import Duties," "Excise," "Rates and Taxes," "Fines and Forfeitures," and "Stamp Act."

	1880.	1881.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Imports - - - -	15,517 19 2	16,910 5 6
Excise - - - -	6,333 2 2	6,903 18 10
Fines, &c. - - - -	778 8 9	909 14 3
Stamp - - - -	2,254 13 5	2,611 2 8

GRENADA.

On the 1st January 1881 the available balance to the credit of the Colony was:—

	£	s.	d.
General Fund - - -	5,185	1	6
Special „ - - -	3,342	11	2
Total - -	8,427	12	8

The total revenue for the year amounted to 47,226*l.* 1*s.* 2*d.*, viz.:—

	£	s.	d.
General Fund - - -	37,176	2	2
Special „ - - -	10,449	19	0
Total - -	47,226	1	2

To which has to be added the balance of 8,427*l.* 12*s.* 8*d.* carried forward, making a total available revenue of 55,653*l.* 13*s.* 10*d.*

The expenditure during the year amounted to 48,429*l.* 0*s.* 6*d.*, viz.:—

	£	s.	d.
General Fund - - -	39,396	9	1
Special „ - - -	9,032	11	5
Total - -	48,429	0	6

Leaving the following credit balances at 31st December, viz.:—

	£	s.	d.
General Fund - - -	2,864	14	7
Special „ - - -	4,359	18	9
Total - -	7,224	13	4

The total receipts for the year were made up under the following heads:—

	£	s.	d.
Customs - - - -	17,037	3	8
Excise - - - -	6,903	18	10
Licenses - - - -	2,024	5	6
Rates and Taxes - - -	5,302	5	7
Fees - - - -	127	19	8
Fines - - - -	909	14	3
Rents - - - -	296	12	2
Stamp - - - -	2,611	2	8
Post Office - - -	350	8	3
Miscellaneous - - -	1,612	11	7
Total - -	37,176	2	2

The following table shows the steady increase of the general revenue for the last five years:—

1877.	1878.	1879.
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
29,084 8 5	34,078 6 9	36,034 11 5

1880.	1881.	Total.
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
36,088 16 3	37,176 2 2	172,462 5 0

Expenditure.

The expenditure on account of general funds for the year amounted to 39,396*l.* 9*s.* 1*d.*, being 2,220*l.* 6*s.* 11*d.* in excess of the expenditure for 1880, and 1,336*l.* 7*s.* 4*d.* in excess of the expenditure for that period.

This unusually large expenditure was unforeseen, and is mainly attributable to the measures of sanitary reform introduced, in respect of which the Colony was deplorably deficient. It was also due to the necessity of maintaining a vigilant quarantine against the neighbouring Colonies, in most of which yellow fever raged more or less throughout the year.

As regards sanitation, it is a question which directly affects every individual in the Colony, and should be viewed not only as regards its efficiency in checking the introduction and spread of epidemic diseases, but it also forms the basis upon which all future social improvements must be built. And, as regards quarantine, I venture to say that it should be either absolute or abandoned altogether. If the quarantine is absolute, then the cost of maintaining it rigidly is necessarily great, and in proportion to the length of time it is necessary to keep it up. During the year 1881 quarantine was enforced at a cost of 1,500*l.* 10*s.* 2*d.* A further sum of 450*l.* was expended for the purchase of a suitable site for a lazaretto, and 98*l.* 14*s.* 7*d.* was expended for the erection of a small building there. In an inter-tropical Colony, such as Grenada, a lazaretto is an absolute necessity. The Colony was unprovided with one. All persons compelled to undergo quarantine were kept on small sloops moored at some distance from the shore, and endured great hardships.

GRENADA.

The expenditure for the year 1881 is shown as under:—

	£	s.	d.
Ecclesiastical - - -	934	0	0
Judicial - - - -	3,630	1	11
Civil - - - -	5,573	12	6
Education - - -	1,057	10	0
Medical - - - -	5,775	1	6
Poor Relief - - -	1,011	18	0
Police - - - -	3,050	1	11
Gaols and Prisons - -	989	11	1
Roads and Bridges - -	5,359	5	4
Buildings - - -	4,594	16	3
Sanitary - - - -	2,500	11	7
Telegraph - - -	509	17	4
Inland Post - - -	368	19	2
Rent of buildings - -	167	0	0
Collection of taxes - -	139	5	0
Non-effective - - -	573	15	0
Census - - - -	565	7	5
Steam communication - -	116	13	4
Miscellaneous - - -	2,479	1	9
Total - -	39,396	9	1

The following is a table exhibiting the expenditure of general funds for the last five years:—

1877.	1878.	1879.
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
29,581 17 3	27,405 10 5	36,629 1 9

1880.	1881.	Total.
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
38,060 1 10	39,396 9 1	171,073 0 4

In the five years from 1877 to 1881, inclusive, the total expenditure of the Colony on account of general revenue was 171,073*l.* 0*s.* 4*d.* During the same period the total receipts on account of general revenue amounted to 172,462*l.* 5*s.* 0*d.*

Public Debt.

The public debt of the Colony on the 31st December last was 7,000*l.*, the balance of a loan of 10,000*l.* contracted in the year 1878, at five per cent. interest, for immigration purposes, and repayable in 10 years by yearly instalments of 1,000*l.* This

loan is repayable out of the immigration fund. On the 31st December there was a balance of 3,615*l.* 17*s.* 9*d.* to the credit of the immigration fund, in addition to which the Crown Agents had on hand in Exchequer Bonds 3,300*l.* The immigration fund therefore is at present almost sufficient to pay off this loan. Besides the immigration revenue amounts annually to about 4,300*l.*, and is steadily increasing.

There is a debt of 1,000*l.* at five per cent. which was incurred for the construction of water works for the town of St. George's. It is repayable in 20 years. There is a further sum of 2,780*l.* due on account of the St. George's Waterworks, being the balance of a loan of 3,500*l.* raised for that purpose from other special funds belonging to the Colony.

The amounts still due to the special funds on account of this loan are as follows:—

	£
Immigration - -	1,920
Harbour - - -	480
Education - - -	380

The revenue derived from shipping dues and a tax on houses in St. George, averaging 500*l.* per annum, is available for the payment of this loan.

Hitherto the revenue from immigration and other special funds has not been taken into account in calculating the revenue of the Colony. The immigration revenue of Grenada for the year 1881 amounted to 6,120*l.* 10*s.* 11*d.* In all the neighbouring Islands, I believe, the immigration revenue is taken to account when preparing the statement of the revenue of the Colony. I can see no reason why this should not also be done in Grenada, and I shall be glad to receive your Excellency's instructions on the subject.

Public Works.

The principal public works undertaken and completed in the year 1881 were the Gonyave Jetty, at a cost of 2,211*l.* 18*s.* 6*d.* This jetty is 410 feet in length and 17 feet in width, having a depth of 21 feet of water at its head.

It is substantially constructed and is a great boon to the inhabitants of that prosperous district.

The St. John's District Hospital, erected at a cost of 480*l.* 13*s.* 5*d.* The want of such an institution was very much felt in this district. It will in a great measure relieve the Colony Hospital of the demands that were continually made on its space from the two parishes of St. John's and St. Mark's.

A market house at Gonyave, St. John's District, erected at a cost of 153*l.* 4*s.* 11*d.* It is constructed principally of concrete, and is conveniently situated near the sea.

A court house at Santeurs, St. Patrick's District, which remained unfinished, and has cost 869*l.* 10*s.* 5*d.*

GRENADA.

The usual necessary repairs to Government House, the Colony Hospital, Lunatic Asylum, the several Police Stations, and other Government Buildings had to be effected for their maintenance and preservation.

Roads and Bridges.

The following is the expenditure on the roads and bridges of the Colony during the year :—

	£	s.	d.
For general repairs, thoroughly macadmizing roads and making culverts -	4,592	14	4
For bridges - - - -	403	6	11
	£4,996	1	3

This expenditure is a necessary one, and immediately benefits the Colony to a very large extent. I may say, that in proportion as the internal communications are extended, so also the means for providing for further improvements increase.

Education.

Little or nothing had been done as regards this all important subject since 1879, when it was proposed that a school system receiving State aid should be assumed by the Government. With that view, Mr. Deighton, principal of Harrison's College, Barbados, made an inspection of the then existing schools in the Colony, and in his report he made some valuable recommendations which remained unheeded. The question of education has however since the receipt of your Excellency's Despatch dated 18th April 1881, engaged no small share of public attention, and by the support you have afforded the Government of Grenada, and the valuable suggestions you have made from time to time, we have succeeded at last in placing within reach of the bulk of the people, that sound primary teaching and training which is essential from childhood upwards to fit them to participate in the many advantages and employments of a civilized community. This satisfactory result is mainly due to your Excellency's initiative, and to the warm support you have afforded to the local Government.

The Education Ordinance which has recently been passed is based on the Trinidad system, where it has been found to work successfully. It makes provision for the granting of aid to assisted schools, so long as they come up to the standard as to numbers and results. In the event of there being no assisted school in any district, it provides for the establishment of Government Schools in such district. An Inspector of Schools

has been appointed at a salary of 350*l.* per annum and travelling allowance. The Board of Education will consist of eight members, four of whom are to be Roman Catholics, and the other four not members of the Roman Catholic Church. The Roman Catholics form nearly two-thirds of the entire population of the Colony. The vote for such education has been increased from 1,500*l.* 1881 to 3,000*l.* 1882.

There are 29 schools in the Colony, namely, 14 Anglican, 5 Wesleyan, 10 Roman Catholic.

The total number of pupils attending these schools was 3,265.

The voluntary contributions amounted during the year to 138*l.* 11*s.* 0*d.*, and the total cost was 983*l.* 0*s.* 8*d.*

Legislative Council.

I assumed the Government of Grenada, on the 28th September, and became ex officio President of the Legislative Council, and continued in that capacity to the end of the year.

I have to report two deaths among the unofficial members of the Legislative Council, namely that of the Honourable Charles Simmons, who died on the 23rd of May, and the Honourable James Bannerman on the 10th September.

The following appointments were made, vizt., the Honourable D. G. Garraway, appointed temporarily Acting Treasurer, during the absence of the Honourable F. M. Chadwick, the Treasurer, who left the Colony on leave of absence. Mr. Garraway thereupon became an ex officio member of Legislative Council.

The Honourable Paulin Orgias, M.D., Colonial Surgeon, appointed an official member on the 7th September.

The following gentlemen were appointed unofficial members of the Legislative Council on the dates named.

The Honourable James Mill, on the 7th September, the Honourable C. Macaulay Browne on the 7th September, the Honourable G. W. Williamson, on the 5th November.

Civil Establishment.

This return contains the names, emoluments, length of service, with dates of first and last appointments of all officers of the several departments of the Public Service.

The following new appointments and changes in the Public Service were made during the year 1881, vizt.

Mr. H. V. Fitzgerald was appointed for a period of three years, Road Surveyor of District A., at a salary of 350*l.* per annum, with 50*l.* per annum horse allowance.

Lieutenant-Governor Harley left Grenada, on the 28th September for Barbados, to administer the Government of the Windward Islands, during your Excellency's absence on leave in England. During Colonel Harley's absence from the Colony I administered this Government.

GRENADA.

Mr. W. E. Haynes was appointed Harbour Master on the 21st January. He was appointed Acting Protector of Immigrants on the 18th February, and on the 12th March he was transferred to the appointment of Acting Police Magistrate of the western district, which he held until the end of the year.

Mr. J. H. Ward was appointed to act as Protector of Immigrants in Mr. Haynes' place on the 12th March 1881.

Mr. S. E. Roche, the Police Magistrate of the Western District, was appointed to act as Magistrate of the Southern District during the absence on leave of Mr. J. A. Harwood.

Dr. Latour was appointed Medical Officer of St. John's and St. Mark's on the 21st January, at a salary of 300*l.* per annum.

Dr. Massiah having resigned the post of Medical Officer of No. 1 District, this appointment was conferred upon Dr. McLeod, who had previously held that of Medical Officer of St. Patrick.

Dr. Cantin, the House Surgeon of the Colony Hospital, was appointed to St. Patrick's in succession to Dr. McLeod.

The death of Dr. Ryder on the 9th December caused a vacancy in the appointment of Health Officer at Carriacou.

Mr. D. G. Garraway, Auditor of Public Accounts, was appointed on the 1st October Acting Treasurer during the absence on leave of the Hon. F. M. Chadwick.

Mr. John Griffith, Revenue Officer at St. George's, was appointed Acting Auditor during Mr Garraway's tenure of office as Acting Treasurer.

The following officers had leave of absence granted to them during the year, viz :—

Dr. Massiah, Medical Officer No 1 District, from the 8th January to the 8th April. He resigned on the 19th July to take up a similar appointment in Demerara.

Mr. C. L. Cunningham, Protector of Immigrants, for three months from 10th February. He ultimately resigned.

Mr J. A. Harwood, Police Magistrate of the Southern District, three months' leave. He did not return as he was appointed Registrar of the Supreme Court at Penang.

Hon. F. M. Chadwick, Treasurer, three months from the 1st October. An extension of six months has been granted to him.

Legislation.

Eighteen Ordinances were passed during the year. Six of these were to amend and consolidate existing Acts.

The most important Ordinances passed were, viz :—

Ordinance No. 1.—" The Repeal of the Tonnage Duty Ordinance 1881."

This Ordinance abolishes all tonnage dues on vessels entering at any port of the Colony. Heretofore a tax of 1*s.* 6*d.* per ton was imposed.

Ordinance No. 6.—" The Savings Bank Ordinance, 1881."

This Ordinance was much needed owing to the rapidly increasing prosperity of the Colony, and was introduced with a

view of encouraging habits of thrift among the labouring classes. There was previously no Savings Bank in the Colony.

Ordinance No. 7.—"The Public Cemeteries Ordinance, 1881," empowers the Governor in Executive Council to compulsorily acquire land for public cemeteries as necessity may require.

The existing cemeteries in the Colony were insufficient.

Ordinance No. 8.—"The Import Duties Ordinance, 1881."

This Ordinance repeals clause 1, and Schedules A. and B. of Act 166 of 1875, and so much of Act 187 as imposes an additional duty of 20 per cent.

Its main feature is the abolition of the 20 per cent. additional duty on all imports imposed by Act No. 187. The Import duty on all articles in the unspecified list is 5*l.* per cent. This Ordinance reduced the duty on food and clothing. It increases the rate of duty on tobacco, spirits, wines, lumber, and oils. The duty on spirits is fixed at 5*s.* per proof gallon. It is anticipated that this Ordinance will increase the general revenue by 2,500*l.*

Ordinance No. 9.—"The Excise Amendment Ordinance, 1881."

This Ordinance raises the duty on rum from 3*s.* per proof gallon to 4s. per proof gallon. The strength of all spirits is ascertained by Sykes hydrometer, in analogy to the system which prevails in the Imperial Customs.

Ordinance No. 10.—"The Debtors Ordinance, 1881."

This Ordinance abolished imprisonment for debt, and makes provision for the punishment of fraudulent debtors. It corresponds with the Imperial Statute dealing with the subject.

Ordinance No. 13.—"The License Ordinance, 1881," reduces the tax on mares and geldings and increases it on stallions. It provides also for a more efficient system of collecting the taxes. The result of the first collection under this Ordinance shows that this tax was largely evaded in the past. Although the tax is reduced by one half, the amount realized is about double what was collected under the old system.

Ordinance No. 14.—The Liquor License Ordinance, 1881, reduces the rates on licenses to retail intoxicating liquors in any quantity from 80*l.* to 40*l.* in the several towns, and from 40*l.* to 20*l.* in the out-districts.

Ordinance No. 16.—"The Land Tax Ordinance, 1881."

Under the previous Act undoubtedly the peasant proprietor was far more heavily taxed than the owners of large estates. Under the former system the first hundred acres of land paid 1*s.* per acre. The second hundred 4*d.* per acre. Any quantity above 200 acres was only liable to 1*d.* per acre. As an instance of the inequality of taxation resulting from the system, the Brothers Estate of 588 acres, situate in the parish of St. John's, and which produces about 900 bags of cocoa, value for

GRENADA.

3,600*l.* at 4*l.* a bag paid only 7*l.* 17*s.*, whereas any one of the smaller properties in the same district of 100 acres, although uncultivated paid 5*l.* With a view of establishing a more equitable system of taxation on land, and encouraging the smaller landholders, who form so large a proportion of our proprietary body the present Ordinance was passed. The rates under this Ordinance are 1*s.* 6*d.* for cultivated and 6*d.* for uncultivated land per acre irrespective of quantity.

Registration.

The estimated population on the 31st December 1880, from the Registration Returns, was 43,807. The census taken on the 4th of April 1881, however, showed a slight falling off from this estimate, the ascertained number of the inhabitants of the Colony being 42,403. Taking the estimate from the Registration Returns 1880 and adding them to the natural increase from 1st January to April, viz., 248, the difference between that return and the census is found to be 1,652, equal to 3·9 per cent. for the period of 10 years from 1871 to 1881, or 39 per cent. per annum.

This disparity is so small that it may indeed be taken as a proof of the accuracy of the registers.

No records of emigration are kept, and the discrepancy may probably be due to this cause.

Mr. D. G. Garraway the compiler of the census has pointed out in his report that the deficit was chiefly in Carriacou and St. David's, these being the two parishes from which the largest emigration takes place.

The number of births recorded during the year was 1,806, deaths 1,146, giving a net increase of 660, equal to 1·58 per cent. There were 244 marriages, and 1,994 baptisms solemnized in the year. The proportion of the sexes in the population is as follows :—

110 females to 100 males or 90·90 males to 100 females.

Census.

From the able report made on the census taken on the 3rd of April 1881 by Mr. D. G. Garraway, the compiler, it is shown that Grenada had on that day a population of 42,403, namely, 20,074 males, and 22,329 females. The increase in 10 years has been 4,719 souls, or 12·52 per cent.

The smallest increase has taken place in St. David's district. The largest in St. Andrew's district. The density of the population is greatest in Carriacou where it is 396 to the square mile, as against an average of 318.

The following table shows the several centisimal proportions of males and females in their civil condition.

—	Males,		
Proportion to the whole population.	Married.	Unmarried.	Widowers.
	9·32	37·16	·87
	Females.		
	Married.	Unmarried.	Widows.
	10·16	39·29	3·20

One in every five of the population is married; three fourths remain unmarried; the widowers and widows bear the proportion to the total number of their own sex respectively as 1 in 54 and 1 in 16.

The proportion which the natives of the different places bear to the whole population is as follows:—

		Per cent.
Natives of the Colony - -	37,525	88·50
Barbados - - - -	1,180	2·78
Other West Indies - -	1,492	3·52
Europe and America - -	188	·44
East India and China - -	1,054	2·49
Africa - - - - -	807	1·90
Other places - - -	157	·37
	42,403	100·00

In relation to the whole population, the different colours stand as follows:—

Blacks, 31,892 or 75·21 per cent.
Coloured, 9,676 „ 22·82 „
White, 835 „ 1·97 „

The following are the proportions of the different religious bodies:—

		Per cent.
Roman Catholic - - -	23,884	56·33
Anglican - - - -	14,626	34·49
Wesleyan - - - -	2,706	6·38
Presbyterian - - -	203	·48
Mahomedan and Hindoo -	919	2·17
Other denominations - - -	65	·15
	42,403	100·00

Imports.

The value of the imports and exports and the direction of trade in the last five years are shown in the table hereunder:—

—	Great Britaln.		British West Indies.		United States of America.	
	Imports.	Exports.	Imports.	Exports.	Imports.	Exports.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1877	60,201	122,821	47,994	16,043	15,268	65
1878	57,431	130,775	55,040	14,484	14,724	—
1879	84,186	137,842	56,379	7,887	12,695	—
1880	67,334	152,545	55,931	13,976	11,250	—
1881	80,043	180,604	39,002	11,647	11,664	—

—	Foreign Countries.		Totals.	
	Imports.	Exports.	Imports.	Exports.
	£	£	£	£
1877 - -	3,741	6,976	127,204	145,966
1878 - -	3,490	3,497	130,687	149,207
1879 - -	3,271	3,697	156,532	149,426
1880 - -	4,104	5,206	138,619	171,728
1881 - -	1,275	2,028	131,985	194,279

Whilst the total value of exports has steadily increased the value of the imports has fluctuated very considerably. The value of imports was highest in 1879. In that year unusually high prices were obtained for cocoa in the home markets and a large number of new importers sprung up for the time.

It will be observed that we have no export trade with the United States. Years ago large quantities of fruit were shipped from here to different ports in the States, but now that the fruit can be got so much nearer America from Jamaica, Ruatan, Bahamas, &c., and is conveyed by steamers, this trade has entirely ceased.

The following table exhibits the principal items of exports.

—	Cocoa.				Cotton.				Spices.				Rum.	Sugar.			
	T.	C.	Q.	lbs.	T.	C.	Q.	lbs.	T.	C.	Q.	lbs.	Galls.	T.	C.	Q.	lbs.
1877 -	1,244	7	3	12	91	0	0	10	19	7	1	8	53,609	2,792	10	1	22
1878 -	1,858	5	0	0	56	0	3	26	22	13	2	8	10,497	2,096	9	0	2
1879 -	1,576	13	0	4	68	10	0	10	20	19	3	8	24,300	1,953	14	2	6
1880 -	2,107	14	1	4	65	6	1	20	37	6	1	18	1,945	1,659	5	0	8
1881 -	2,619	13	2	22	88	13	3	10	44	5	3	26	2,617	910	2	3	4

The following table shows the revenue derived from the principal articles of consumption, the duty contributed per head, taking the population at 42,403, as given by the census of 1881, being about 7*s.* 11*d.* per annum.

——	Flour.	Fish.	Meats.	Spirits.	Tobacco.
	£	£	£	£	£
1877	1,966	646	541	585	857
1878	2,661	611	673	642	855
1879	2,351	695	799	881	842
1880	2,288	831	778	675	857
1881	3,205	725	732	1,098	1,087

——	Lumber.	Oils.	Rice.	Sugar.	Wines.
	£	£	£	£	£
1877	676	402	488	499	334
1878	586	371	704	609	307
1879	856	569	458	721	410
1880	755	514	491	674	274
1881	894	897	860	922	182

The large increase in most of the items in 1881 is specially attributable to the New Import Tariff, which came into force in October.

Agriculture.

The estimated area of the Colony is 85,000 acres. Of this 13,425 acres are estimated to be under cultivation. Cocoa now forms the largest agricultural industry. During the year 32,605 bags were exported, as against 29,564 bags in 1880.

As regards sugar there has been a considerable falling off. During the year only 910 tons 2 cwt. 3 qrs. 4 lbs. were exported as against 1,659 tons 5 cwt. 8 lbs. in 1880.

It is indeed gratifying to any one who has the welfare of Grenada at heart, to observe the planters steadily extending cultivation, and directing their attention to the raising of other productive staples, besides cocoa and sugar.

GRENADA.

The soil and climate of the Island seems well adapted for the cultivation of most of the tropical plants. Coffee, cinnamon, nutmegs, cloves, vanilla, and limes have all been successfully tried, and it only needs extended cultivation to make these valuable crops become profitable enterprises to the planters.

Liberian coffee which has recently been imported bids fair to become in time an important export from the Colony. I had shown to me some Liberian coffee from trees planted two years ago in the St. John's district. A large number of Liberian coffee plants have been introduced into the Colony within the last three years, and they all appear to be doing well. Most of these plants were imported from the botanical gardens at Trinidad.

Pineapples, grapes, mangoes, oranges, sweet limes, water melons, bananas, plantains, water lemons, guavas, granadillas, Avocada pears, and numerous other kinds of fruit are abundantly grown, but with the exception of a small export trade to Trinidad, and latterly in the case of oranges to Barbados, the fruit grown is consumed in the Colony.

One pleasing feature which deserves special notice is to be found in section 16 of Mr. Garraway's report on the census, in which he brings to notice the extraordinary wellbeing of the peasantry of Grenada. Out of a total male adult population of 9,000 no less than 3,000, or one in every three, owns land of from one to fifty acres.

Post Office

The revenue of the post office for the year 1881 was 669*l.* 11*s.* 2½*d.*, and the net amount paid into the public treasury was 690*l.* 5*s.* 5*d.*

In 1880 the amounts were respectively 825*l.* 9*s.* 4*d.* and 812*l.* 19*s.* 2*d.*

There was an increase in the amount of commissions received on money orders sent to the United Kingdom.

	£	*s.*	*d.*
In 1880 - - - -	31	5	0
„ 1881 - - -	39	7	6

and also an increase in the amount of money orders paid inter-Colonially.

	£	*s.*	*d.*
In 1880 - - -	44	14	9
„ 1881 - - -	135	4	1

The receipts from the sale of postage stamps during the year amounted to 596*l.* 17*s.* 1*d.* Annexed is a table showing the number of letters papers and books received and forwarded during the year.

Received.

—	Letters.	Papers.	Books.
	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.
British - - - - -	212	2,000	1,313
Inter-Colonial - - -	9,452	5,538	458

Sent.

—	Letters.	Papers.	Books.
	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.
British - - - - -	147	2,155	102
Inter-Colonial - - - -	10,800	2,294	385

Letters are now registered to all parts of the world.

Grenada, this year, was admitted into the International Postal Union.

Mail Service.

The mails to and from England, and between the several neighbouring Colonies, are carried by the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company twice a month.

Towards the latter end of the year the enterprising firm of Messrs. A. Hubbard and Company imported a coasting steamer, which the Government have subsidized at 400*l.* a year, to carry mails daily to and from the several districts.

Gaols.

During the year there were in all 220 persons committed to prison, 164 males and 56 females.

Out of these 194 were committed for purposes of penal imprisonment, 146 males and 48 females. Only 22 however of these convictions were from the Supreme Court, and are made up as follows: manslaughter, 1; wounding unlawfully, and wounding with intent to maim, 5; stealing cocoa, 3; stealing cattle, 1; stealing sheep, 2; other offences, 6.

The number of convictions during this year as compared with the population of the Colony is ·45 per cent.

The daily average number of prisoners was:—

Males - - - -	43
Females - - - -	5

The highest number of males in any one day in gaol was 52; the lowest, 34; of females, the highest number, 11, the lowest, 1.

Only one juvenile was committed to prison during the year.

The expenditure for the maintenance of the Richmond Hill Prison and the St. George's Prison for females and juveniles

GRENADA.

amounted to 952*l.* 11*s.* 1*d.* showing a decrease upon the previous year of 112*l.* 12*s.* 6½*d.*

The daily cost of each prisoner, including all expenses, was 1*s.* 1*d.*

Richmond Hill Prison and St. George's Prison.	Total Number of Persons committed in 1881.	Number committed for Debt, Want of Bail and Punishment.			Number of those committed who have been previously committed.			Number of Persons committed to Penal Imprisonment, including Penal Servitude, if that Term is used in the Colony to describe any Punishment.				The daily average Number in Prison.	The Number of Admissions to Hospital during the Year 1881.	The daily Average on the Sick List.	The Number of Deaths during 1881.
		For Debt.	For safe Custody till Trial, or for Want of Security.	For Purposes of Penal Imprisonment.	Once.	Twice.	Thrice or more.	For Five Years or more.	For One Year or more, but less than Five Years.	For more than Three Months, and less than One Year.	For Three Months or less.				
Men -	164	-	29	146	25	6	7	2	14	3	125	43	7	-	1
Females -	55	-	8	47	9	1	3	-	-	-	47	5	3	-	-
Juveniles	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Total -	220	-	37	194	34	7	10	2	14	3	173	48	10*	-	1

* Two Males to Lunatic Asylum. Three Females to Lunatic Asylum.

Hospitals.

Dr. Orgias, the Colonial Surgeon, reports that on the 1st January 1881 there remained in the hospitals, namely, Colony Hospital, Ulcer Ward, and Yaws Hospital, 103 patients; 70 of these were males, and 33 females.

During the year 529 patients were admitted, of whom 388 were males, and 141 females, making a total of 632 patients treated during the year, of these 402 were cured, 109 relieved, 26 died, and there remained in the hospitals on the 31st December 95 patients, of whom 61 were males, and 34 females.

The buildings are in good repair. The Yaws Hospital is much too small, and many cases had to be refused admittance. The Colonial Surgeon is of opinion that the disease is on the increase in the Colony.

In the St. Andrew's District Hospital there remained at the beginning of the year 4 male patients. During the year 42 male and 12 female patients were admitted. Of these, 39 males and 8 females were cured, and 1 male and 1 female died during the year.

Two iron tanks were erected for this hospital, each capable of holding 400 gallons.

In the St. Patrick's District Hospital there were 6 male and 1 female patients at the beginning of the year.

During the year 51 male and 3 female patients were admitted, and 51 patients cured, 8 relieved, and 2 died.

Poor House.

This institution is nothing more or less than a hospital for incurables, combined with a poor house.

A large proportion of the inmates are suffering from advanced struma, and there are some who are leprous.

On the 1st January 1881, there were 47 inmates, 26 male, 21 female.

During the year 31 were admitted, 20 males, and 11 females; 15 died, 8 males and 7 females.

Remaining on 31st December 1881, 49 inmates, viz., 27 males, and 22 females.

The expenditure for the year amounted to 673*l.* 10*s.* 2¼*d.*, or 14*l.* 6*s.* 4½*d.* per annum on average number under treatment.

Leper Asylum.

During the year there were under care and treatment, 7 patients in all; 3 of these have been inmates of the institution for a number of years.

Lunatic Asylum.

On the 1st of January 1881, there were in the asylum 48 inmates, 27 males, and 21 females. During the year 20 were added to this number; 9 males and 11 females.

Total under treatment 68 of whom 10 were discharged and 8 died during the year.

The daily average number was 51.

The cost of maintenance, tradesmen's accounts, servants, interments, &c. amounted to 1,056*l.* 14*s.* 6¾*d.*, or 20*l.* 14*s.* 4¾*d.* per annum on average number under treatment.

These institutions are under the care and able management of Dr. McLeod.

Public Health.

The Colonial Surgeon reports as follows:—

"The health of the island continued tolerably good throughout the year. The first six months were marked by an almost perfect immunity from disease. With the exception of a few cases of dysentery and infantile diarrhœa, scattered here and there, the latter six months were marked, as usual, by the prevalence, but not to a great extent, of the endemic fever of the tropics. This fever commenced as early as the month of July, with the increased temperature of the weather, the first few cases that occurred in the town of St. George's, in whites, and fair complexioned Creoles attracted my attention as having characters different from our ordinary fever, being accompanied by symptoms of well marked jaundice and a strong hæmorrhagic tendency of one or other of the mucous surfaces. In the month of November

GRENADA.

a change of weather took place, heavy rains fell for several days, which had the salutary effect of cooling the atmosphere and causing a considerable diminution in the fever cases."

Savings Bank.

This was established in connexion with the Treasury on the 1st November 1881. Having regard to the great advantages which it offers, more especially to the labouring classes of the community, it is to be hoped that it will be more generally made use of than it has been. I attribute the hitherto small deposits made entirely to the shortness of the period during which it has yet been established, and the fact that its existence was not generally known. I may state that since the beginning of this year there has been a large increase in the number of depositors.

The amount lodged to 31st December was 89*l.* 0*s.* 11*d.*

The withdrawals amounted to 1*l.* 1*s.* 1*d.* leaving a balance at 31st December of 87*l.* 19*s.* 10*d.*

The provisions of the savings bank here are similar to those of St. Vincent. Deposits are accepted from 1*s.* upwards, not exceeding in each case 100*l.* in any one year. Interest at 3 per cent. is allowed on all deposits from the first day of the month succeeding that on which it was made.

Militia.

The corps which was enrolled in the year 1878 for three years ceased to exist in June. The arms and accoutrements remain at Fort George under the charge of the Colonial Storekeeper, who is responsible that they are kept at all times in serviceable condition.

Immigration.

During the year no new immigrants were introduced into Grenada. The applications for Indian immigrants which were forwarded not having been satisfied. Twenty-seven Coolies, equal to 24 statute adults, were returned to India in the ship "Syria," 13 of whom took with them in Government bills, 118*l.* 6*s.* 5*d.*

The immigrants ex "Sevilla," 1871, completed their residence of 10 years in the Colony, but only 19 availed themselves of the opportunity afforded to them of returning to India, while 69 received a bounty in lieu of passage. A few others who had registered their names for return to India ultimately declined to embark.

The number of indentured East Indian immigrants in the Colony amounts to 484.

The increase from births during the year was 3·57 per cent. while the decrease from deaths was only 1·68.

The arrangements for medical attendance are very complete.

The wages paid to the immigrants are in accordance with the requirements of the law, and the agreements made with them in India have been satisfactorily fulfilled, while they have enjoyed many additional privileges not specified in their contracts, and

which have had the effect of enabling them to procure food almost entirely without the expenditure of their wages.

The indentured immigrants may be said to be fairly prosperous.

The relations between employer and immigrants are harmonious, the labour disputes have been few and unimportant, and there has been a total absence of serious crime amongst the immigrants.

The unindentured immigrant population, consisting entirely of East Indians, is estimated at 1,572, and is, as a body, very prosperous.

IRWIN C. MALING,
Administrator.

Grenada, 20th June 1882.

TOBAGO.

No. 10.

Governor ROBINSON, C.M.G., to the Right Hon. the EARL OF KIMBERLEY.

Barbados, July 8, 1882.

FORWARDED.
The Right Hon.
The Earl of Kimberley,
&c. &c.

(Signed) WILLIAM ROBINSON.

Government House, Tobago,
June 16, 1882.

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to transmit the Blue Book of Tobago for the year 1881, with the accompanying report thereon.

2. This report, with the exception of the remarks on education and hospitals, was written before the close of the month of March. It was not then completed for want of the returns on the subjects mentioned, and when these returns were sent in, I regret to say, further delay was caused by my severe illness.

Taxes, Duties, Fees, &c.

3. No change during the year was made in taxation until the amending and consolidating Excise and the Tariff Ordinances were proclaimed at the close of the month of November. The former Ordinance raised the excise duty on rum consumed in the Colony from 3*s.* to 4*s.* per proof gallon by Sykes' hydrometer; the latter Ordinance revised and re-adjusted the duties chargeable on imported goods. It is estimated that the increase in the excise duties will make good the decrease which is likely to be caused by the alteration in the duties on imports; but as these

TOBAGO.

changes were made at so late a period of the year there was very little, if any, appreciable difference from them in the revenue of 1881.

4. No alteration was made in the fees of office payable in the several departments. By an order of the Governor in Council all fees payable on the registry of deeds and other instruments, and for all business transacted in the Superior Courts, were required to be paid by stamps from the 1st July last.

Revenue, Expenditure, and Debt.

5. The revenue of 1881 was unprecedentedly good, having reached 16,830*l.*, exceeding the estimate by 3,845*l.*, and being 2,827*l.*, more than the revenue of 1880, which was itself above the average.

Comparative Revenue of 1880 *and* 1881.

—	Amount collected in the year 1880 in Pounds sterling.	Amount collected in the year 1881 in Pounds sterling.
Customs.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Import duties	6,108 6 1	8,364 19 9½
Tonnage dues	510 17 6	524 15 0
Light dues	155 16 6	173 8 0
Wharf dues	119 5 5½	139 7 8½
Harbour and pilotage	132 5 3	129 14 1½
Warehouse rent	29 11 8	42 3 3
Excise.		
Duty on rum	1,387 14 9½	1,511 13 5
Revenue stamps (sale of)	353 14 3	265 9 4
Licenses.		
Liquor (sale of)	216 10 0	237 0 0
Stills	107 10 0	98 6 8
Animals	1,163 13 9	1,132 17 6
Guns, boats, and boatmen	92 17 6	93 7 6
Taxes.		
Arrears of land tax	131 7 7	140 16 9
Sugar estates	1,255 1 0	1,487 3 6
Other lands and tenements	1,344 13 3	1,293 8 9
Commutation road tax	169 13 0	174 2 0
Fines, forfeitures, and fees of court	447 17 8½	477 17 6
Fees of office	191 7 2	209 0 3½
Postage, sale of stamps	—	198 17 9
Rents	44 5 6	55 11 0
Miscellaneous receipts	40 14 3	80 8 4
Total	14,003 2 2½	16,830 8 2

6. The expenditure in 1881 was 14,844*l.* In this amount is included the debt which the Colony owed to the Crown Agents, the loan of 1,000*l.* repaid to Mrs. Keens, and the arrears of salaries and other moneys due for the service of the previous year.

7. The financial position of the Colony at the 1st of January 1881 and at the 1st of January 1882 is shown in the statements hereunder:—

1881.

Assets	£	*Liabilities.*	£
Cash in Treasury chest	653	Due for salaries and other services in 1880	1,516
Balance of liabilities -	2,731	Due to the Crown Agents	868
		„ on loan - -	1,000
	3,384		3,384

1882.

Assets.	£	*Liabilities.*	£
Cash in Treasury chest	1,856	Due for salaries and other services in 1881	1,134
In hands of the Crown Agents - -	499	Surplus of assets -	1,221
	2,355		2,355

8. At the commencement of this year the Colony was free of debt and had 1,221*l.* of surplus assets.

Military Expenditure.

9. The following sums were expended in the maintenance of the volunteer corps;—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
For taxes remitted to efficient volunteers -	71	10	0
Clothing for the Scarborough corps -	111	12	2
Incidental expenses - - -	27	8	7
Total expenditure - -	210	10	9

10. The Scarborough Volunteer Corps consists of 8 officers and 63 non-commissioned officers and men; the Windward Volunteer Corps of 7 officers and 60 non-commissioned officers and men. Each corps meets once a week for drill; recruits are drilled twice in each week. The corps are armed with B.L. Snider rifles.

11. The Imperial Government incurs no expenditure for the military protection of the Colony nor in aid of its Civil Establishment.

Public Works and Buildings.

12. Owing to the financial difficulties of the Colony when the estimates of 1881 were prepared, no provision was made in them for undertaking new works; and although the public debt was fully discharged in the month of August, the utmost that could be done, with the means at the disposal of the Government, was

TOBAGO.

to maintain existing buildings and works. A sum of 82*l.* 19*s.* 3*d.* was expended in the repair and improvement of the hospital; 65*l.* 19*s.* 4*d.* in repairing the quarters at the fort formerly occupied by the Commandant of the Troops; 29*l.* 11*s.* 9*d.* on Government House; 48*l.* 11*s.* 7*d.* for renewing some piles and for securing the landing-stage and steps of the jetty; and 141*l.* 11*s.* 2*d.* in small repairs to various buildings.

Roads and Bridges.

13. The Superintendent of Public Works and Surveyor of Roads was removed to another Colony early in March of the year under report. It was feared that some difficulty would have arisen in consequence in the supervision and management of the public roads. The gentlemen of the Colony, however, generously responded to the appeal of the Executive, and the gratuitous superintendence of the roads was undertaken by some of them. The interest these gentlemen felt in the work, and the care they bestowed upon it for the common good, was manifested by a marked improvement in the condition of the public roads throughout the Colony at the close of the year.

14. The expenditure for this service was 962*l.* 2*s.* 9*d.*, a larger sum than had been available to the Surveyor of Roads for many years previously.

Legislation.

15. Nineteen Ordinances were proclaimed and became law in 1881.

16. The most important of these was the Ordinance for abolishing imprisonment for debt, and for providing for the punishment of fraudulent debtors. This Ordinance was brought into force, under authority of the Governor's Proclamation, on the last day of the year.

17. The Ordinance to provide for the re-arrangement of the various offices hitherto held by the Colonial Secretary and the Ordinance to unite the offices of Inspector of Police and Inspector of Inland Revenue Officers were also important measures; the latter particularly, as providing most effectually for the supervision and careful collection of the Inland Revenues.

18. The Ordinance to consolidate and amend the laws for the valuation of lands and for imposing taxes thereon, the Ordinance to consolidate and amend the laws imposing tonnage, lighthouse and wharfage dues on vessels, the Ordinance to consolidate and amend the laws imposing Excise duties on rum, and the Ordinance to consolidate and amend the laws imposing duties on imported goods were valuable improvements in the Statute Book of the Colony. They will also benefit the Revenue.

19. The Ordinance to facilitate public officers in providing security for the due performance of their duties is an entirely new measure. It affords large facilities to officers in giving security, while it provides substantially against loss by the misfeasance of any officer.

20. These, and the Ordinance to consolidate and amend the law regulating the duties of Coroners, the Wrecks Inquiry Ordinance, the Colonial Surgeon and Hospital Ordinance, with other enactments of comparatively minor importance, are evidence that a fair measure of useful legislation was accomplished in the year.

Executive and Legislative Councils.

21. The vacancy in the Legislative Council, which occurred in December 1880 by the death of Mr. Robert Gordon, was filled by the appointment of Mr. Edward Keens, son of the late J. H. Keens, C.M.G., for some time Administrator of the Colony.

22. Mr. S. B. Isaacs, the senior unofficial member of the Legislative Council, was appointed to a seat in the Executive Council.

Civil Establishment.

23. Mr. James Armstrong, C.M.G., the Chief Justice of St. Lucia, who had been appointed in September 1880 to act as Chief Justice of Tobago, was confirmed in this office. He, however, resigned his appointment before the close of 1881.

24. Mr. G. W. Gordon, who had been acting as auditor since July 1880, was confirmed in the appointment of auditor and registrar; and Mr. James Kirk was confirmed in the offices of Inspector of Police and Inland Revenue Officers.

25. Mr. H. V. Fitzgerald, the Superintendent of Public Works, was removed to Grenada, and the office remained vacant.

Pensions.

26. The only person receiving a pension from the public funds of the Colony is Mr. Henry L. Byng, who was for several years the Colonial Secretary and Auditor. He was pensioned in 1880 on the abolition of his office, and he receives the annual sum of 73*l.* 17*s.* 4*d.*

Population.

27. The census taken on the 3rd April 1881 showed a population of 18,051. The comparison with the census of April 1871 is here given:—

Districts.	1871.	1881.	Increase.	Decrease.	Total Increase.	Centesimal Proportion.
Leeward district -	8,009	7,951	—	58	—	—
Middle district -	5,914	6,072	158	—	—	—
Windward district -	3,131	4,028	897	—	—	—
Total -	17,054	18,051	1,055	58	997	5·84

TOBAGO.

28. The population was distributed in the several towns and parishes as under:—

Parishes.	Males.	Females.	Total.
St. David's parish - -	1,928	2,011	3,939
Town of Plymouth - - -	355	412	767
St. Patrick's parish - - -	1,517	1,728	3,245
St. Andrew's parish - - -	1,470	1,678	3,148
Town of Scarborough - - -	351	502	853
St. George's parish - - -	1,032	1,039	2,071
St. Mary's parish - - -	593	553	1,146
St. Paul's parish - - -	860	891	1,751
St. John's parish - - -	588	543	1,131
Total - - -	8,694	9,357	18,051

29. The different races, birth places, and religious denominations of the people were—

European.	African.	Asiatic.	Mixed.
109	15,072	8	2,862

Tobago.	Other B.W.I. Colonies.	British and Dutch Guiana.	Great Britain and Ireland.	Prussia.	Switzerland.	Africa.	India.	Other Places.
16,665	1,093	19	52	2	1	199	12	8

Church of England.	Moravians.	Wesleyans.	Roman Catholics.	Presbyterian.	Not ascertained.
8,865	4,612	4,016	13	11	534

30. It will be seen that the increase of the population in the 10 years, from April 1871 to April 1881, was only 997. But the registration of births and deaths shows a natural increase in those years of 2,273. The difference may easily be accounted for by the emigration to Trinidad

31. In the year 1881 the births of 591 living children were recorded, 310 males and 281 females. Two still births (males) were noted. There were 351 deaths, excluding the still born.

32. The birth rate of the year was 32·74 per thousand of the population, and the death rate was 19·44. The mortality in the year among children under one year of age was 25·64 per cent. and of all ages under 15 years it was 48·71 per cent.

33. The natural increase in the first quarter of the year was 119, which was of course enumerated in the Census. The natural increase in the remaining three-quarters of the year was 121.

34. Adding this natural increase to the number shown by the Census of the 3rd of April, the population of the Colony at the close of 1881 was 18,172.

Education.

35. As in 1880 so in 1881 there were 21 schools receiving Government aid, but in the latter year the number of children on the registers and the average attendance was not so great. The Government granted 550*l.* in aid of education; of which the Board of Education appropriated 50*l.* for the Inspector of Schools, and the balance in payment of fixed grants and præmia to the teachers. In addition a sum of 437*l.* was obtained from voluntary contributions and school fees, which was used by the ministers in charge of the schools in augmentation of the salaries of their teachers.

The whole amount expended in the year on the teachers was 941*l.* In 1880 the voluntary contributions and school fees amounted to 549*l.*, and the whole sum available for the teachers was 1,042*l.*

36. With respect to school fees it is remarkable that in the Anglican schools, which had an average attendance of 544 children only 47*l.* were collected, while in the Wesleyan schools, with an average attendance of 396, the fees were 44*l.*, and in the Moravian Schools, with an average attendance of 374, the fees amounted to 97*l.*

37. The following table prepared by the Inspector of Schools shows the results in 1880 and 1881 as compared with 1876, when the existing educational system was first brought into operation.

Comparative table showing difference between 1876 and 1880 and between 1880 and 1881.

——	1876.	1881.	Increase.	1880.	1881.	Decrease.	Remarks.
No. on Registers - -	1,895	2,137	242	2,230	2,137	93	
Average Attendance - -	1,070	1,320	250	1,373	1,320	53	
No. eligible as Examinates -	796	1,413	617	1,457	1,413	44	
No. presented for Examination	699	1,257	558	1,292	1,257	35	
Attendance on day of Examination.	1,047	1,643	596	1,689	1,643	46	
No. of Passes - - -	1,578	3,974	2,396	3,749	3,974	225	Increase.

PREMIUMS.

—	1876.	1881.	Increase.	1880.	1881.	Decrease.	Remarks.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
Anglican	37 12 0	113 10 11	75 18 11	102 8 0	113 10 11	11 2 11	Increase
Moravian	37 0 8	85 14 7	48 13 11	98 5 4	85 14 7	12 10 9	Decrease.
Wesleyan	38 9 4	108 8 0	69 18 8	93 4 8	108 8 0	15 3 4	Increase.
Total -	113 2 0	307 13 6	194 11 6	293 18 0	307 13 6	13 15 6	Increase.

TOBAGO.

Imports and Exports.

38. The value of imported goods in 1881 was 59,582*l.* In 1880 it was only 45,138*l.* The table below gives the principal articles which contributed to this increase, and it shows that while the scarcity of home-grown food may have caused a greater demand for flour, rice, and bread, the increase was due to a general improvement in trade.

39. With reference to this general improvement in trade it is worthy of observation that 1881 was the first year in which vessels were compelled by law to enter at the ports of Scarborough or Plymouth, and were forbidden from the former practice of going into other bays on the coast on arrival in the Colony.

		1880.		1881.	
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
			£		£
Bread and biscuit -	Barrels	436	330	1,059	717
Bricks and tiles -	M.	45¾	190	64	247
Butter - -	Lbs.	15,228	636	18,088	784
Candles (tallow) -	„	10,745	318	13,603	332
Corn and grain -	Bushels	2,217	468	3,824	903
China and Glassware -		—	99	—	141
Earthenware - -		—	180	—	436
Flour, wheat - -	„	2,912	4,509	5,138	7,504
„ other kinds -	„	189	167	1,115	995
Hams, bacon, &c. -	Lbs.	3,323	156	4,321	191
Hardware and ironmongery		—	1,270	—	1,959
Leather goods - -		—	938	—	1,836
Linens and cottons -		—	10,662	—	17,715
Lumber, white pine -	Ft.	291½	1,471	354	1,812
Pepper and spices -	Lbs.	888	16	1,495	45
Rice - - -	„	136,451	766	363,565	2,232
Silk goods - -		—	31	—	159
Sugar - - -	„	8,325	142	11,067	180
Tobacco, unmanufactured -	„	16,515	425	18,182	468
„ manufactured -	„	163	17	308	33
Wines - - -		—	175	—	353

40. The value of the exports, which were the produce and manufacture of the Colony, was 83,555*l.*, and of other places 28*l.*, making the total value of the exports 83,583*l.*

41. The following table exhibits the trade of the Colony and its direction in the last six years. From these figures it will be seen that in 1881 both imports and exports were in excess of any of the preceding five years.

42. The value of the imports from Great Britain was greater than in any of the previous years, and very much greater than in 1880. But the difference in this last-mentioned year may partly be accounted for from the fact that goods which were shipped from Great Britain in steam vessels viâ Barbados having been landed in that Island and re-shipped in sailing vessels, were

entered here as imports from the British West Indies. This error has been avoided in the year under report.

Year.	Great Britain.		British West Indies.		British North America.		Foreign Countries.		Totals.	
	Imports.	Exports.	Imports.	Exports.	Imports.	Exports.	Imports.	Exports.	Imports.	Exports.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1876	23,315	76,963	30,922	2,693	345	—	—	14	54,582	79,670
1877	31,802	66,388	26,297	2,642	651	—	—	28	58,750	68,058
1878	15,013	64,088	25,773	2,826	600	—	20	550	41,406	67,464
1879	11,090	64,208	26,257	6,047	—	—	12	200	37,359	70,455
1880	6,529	71,459	38,462	5,871	—	—	147	285	45,138	77,615
1881	33,051	76,253	26,205	6,934	—	—	325	396	59,582	83,583

Shipping

43. The number of vessels which entered and cleared in 1881 and in the two years previous is stated below :—

Year.	No. of Vessels entered.	No. of Tons.	No. of Crews.	No. of Vessels cleared.	No. of Tons.	No. of Crews.
1879	108	5,576	491	108	5,576	491
1880	134	6,901	721	129	7,603	771
1881	145	7,788	779	146	8,093	811

44. By the enterprise of a gentleman in London and a few others in this Island, who enrolled themselves as a company under the style of "The Tobago Steam Ship Company (Limited)," a small steamer was brought out in July last to run between this and the neighbouring Islands. This company received a subsidy from the local government for bringing the mails from Barbados in the middle of the month when the R.M.S. Packet Company's vessel did not come this way, and for taking the mails to Barbados to meet the Company's vessel leaving for England on the 29th of the month. They also received certain concessions in port charges. Unfortunately this steam vessel ran on some rocks a few weeks ago while landing cargo in a bay to the northward of the Island, and became a total wreck. It is to be hoped the Tobago Steam Ship Company will see their way to carrying on with another, and perhaps larger, steamer the enterprise which they so recently undertook, and which, while satisfying a great public want, should be a profitable investment for their capital.

Agriculture, Manufactures, &c.

45. The sugar crop of 1831 was the largest since 1876, and the shipment of cocoa nuts was far in excess of any previous year. The rum crop was small because few stills were at work, and in consequence the export of molasses was very large.

46. The exports in 1881, being the growth and manufacture of the Colony, were:—

Sugar - - - -	4,417 hogsheads.
Rum - - - -	214 puncheons.
Molasses - - -	969 puncheons.
Cocoa nuts - - -	893,041.
Cattle (neat) - - -	110.
Cedar - - - -	127 logs (8,000 feet).
Cocoa - - - -	14 bags.
Fowls - - - -	185 dozen.
Goats - - - -	274.
Hides - - - -	2 bales and 191.
Horses - - -	13.
Lime juice - - -	11 puncheons and 1 barrel.
Logwood - - -	31 tons.
Pigs - - - -	139.
Shell (turtle) - - -	3 packages.
Wood (fuel) - - -	149 cords.

Grants of Land.

47. There were no grants in the past year.

Prison and Prisoners.

48. The commitments to prison were more in number than in 1880. The table hereunder, in the form prescribed in the Blue Book, shows the comparative statistics for the last three years.

Year.	No. of Commitments.	For Debt.	For custody till Trial or for want of Security.	For Penal Imprisonment.	Once convicted before.	Twice convicted before.	Thrice or more before.	Committed for five years or more.	For one and less than five years.	For more than three months and less than one year.	For three months or less.	Daily average in Prison.	Admissions to Hospital.	Daily average on Sick List.	Number of Deaths.
1879	115	12	18	85	22	13	13	—	2	5	78	46	51	·53	1
1880	89	1	10	78	22	10	13	—	1	1	76	33	128	9·15	1
1811	131	3	12	116	27	10	18	2	8	3	103	32	135	9·6	—

49. In the last two years the Colonial surgeon has counted every prisoner who sought his advice, however trivial the ailment, as an admission to hospital. This was not done in previous years. The apparent large increase in the number of admissions to hospital, and in the daily average on the sick list, can thus be accounted for. The health of the prisoners was good, the Colonial surgeon reporting it to have been "better for the last "two years than in former years, and on the whole not "unsatisfactory."

50. The total cost of the prison was 437*l.* 2*s.* 1*d.*, giving an average cost of 13*l.* 13*s.* 2*d.* per head of the daily average.

Criminal Statistics.

51. The number of persons brought before the magistrates by the police or by summons were less than in previous years; but there were fewer acquittals and more convictions. The following comparative table exhibits the statistics for the last three years:—

—	1879.	1880.	1881.
Number of persons brought before the magistrates by the police or by summons -	1,375	1,132	983
Number of summary convictions :—			
1. For offences against the person - -	186	92	107
2. For prædial larceny - - -	32	17	28
3. For offences against property other than prædial larceny - - - -	11	17	34
4. For other offences - - -	502	396	301
Number of convictions in the Superior Courts :—			
1. For offences against the person - -	9	6	3
2. For arson - - - -	—	—	1
3. For offences against property other than prædial larceny - - - -	2	2	2
4. For other offences - - -	4	2	2
Number of persons acquitted :—			
1. In the Inferior courts - - -	129	121	97
2. In the Superior courts - - -	3	6	—

Hospital.

52. The number of admissions to the hospital in 1881 was 77, that is 53 males and 24 females. Fifteen males and 10 females remained over from 1880. The total number treated during the year was 102; in 1880 the number was 72. Twenty-six patients were discharged cured, 35 relieved, and four not improved. There were 14 deaths. The death rate on the number treated was 13·72 per cent., and on the bed rate it was 56 per cent. In 1880 these rates were respectively 15·38 and 52·17.

I have, &c.

His Excellency (Signed) EDWARD LABORDE.
Governor Robinson, C.M.G.
&c. &c. &c.

St. Lucia.

ST. LUCIA.

No. 11.

Governor Robinson, C.M.G., to the Right Hon. the Earl of Kimberley.

My Lord, Barbados, April 26, 1882.

I have the honour to transmit to you the report on the St. Lucia Blue Book for 1881.

In a despatch relating to my recent visit to that Island, I referred to the energy which had characterized Mr. Goldsworthy's administration, and I am confident that he will do his utmost to develop the resources of the Colony.

Possessing a fine harbour, a good climate, and splendid soil, I have no fear for the future prosperity of St. Lucia.

Capital has already been introduced from the neighbouring French Islands, and doubtless population will follow.

I have, &c.

(Signed) William Robinson.

The Right Hon.
The Earl of Kimberley,
&c. &c.

Government Office, Castries,
March 31, 1882.

Sir,

In forwarding the Blue Book for 1881 with my report thereon, it will be in your Excellency's recollection that it was not till the 4th March that I assumed the administration of the Government of this Island, and that, prior to my arrival, the duties of Administrator had from time to time been discharged by acting officers. If, therefore, the financial condition of the Colony was not such as to justify one in feeling sanguine as regarded its future prosperity, much might be attributed to the fact that on so many occasions the Government had been administered by acting officers, whose hands are invariably more or less tied and their actions hampered by the knowledge that they are simply expected to prevent the wheels of Government from being clogged, and not to initiate any new line of policy. But whilst, on the one hand, a glance at the revenue and expenditure of past years, from 1873 to 1880, could not but leave an unfavourable impression as to the condition of the Colony, yet on the other hand the equalization of revenue and expenditure under the economical government of Mr. Dix, whom I succeeded, at least showed the possibility of making both ends meet; and this would likewise have been the result in 1881 except for unforeseen expenses in connexion with the revenue and quarantine services, the former arising from expenses incurred in

the repression of smuggling and the protection of our excise duties, and the latter from preventive measures which were rendered necessary by the outbreak of yellow fever in several of the West Indian Colonies: and that this latter expenditure was not unduly incurred is evidenced, I am happy to think, by the fact that whilst Barbados, Trinidad, British Guiana, and to some small extent Grenada, suffered from its ravages, St. Lucia under Divine Providence altogether escaped this frightful scourge.

2. The steps taken for the suppression of smuggling were, I am glad to say, attended with good results, though it cannot but be admitted that, notwithstanding the precautionary measures adopted, considerable quantities of rum were introduced without payment of duty into the Colony from the neighbouring French Island of Martinique. And this, I fear, will always be the case until an understanding is arrived at with the Government of Martinique to co-operate with us to suppress this nefarious traffic, I purpose, however, at an early date to enter more fully into this matter, and suggest what I believe will prove a feasible scheme by which Martinique and St. Lucia will be mutually benefited.

3. The manner in which the revenue was defrauded in respect of excise duties rendered it essential that some stringent measures should be adopted to minimize the opportunities of doing so; and for this purpose an Ordinance was passed by which retail spirit shops were not allowed on, or within two miles of, any estate where distillation was carried on, and further, distillation was not permitted to take place except during certain fixed hours, and then only in the presence of a revenue officer. Measures were likewise adopted for so securing the stills that they could not be used except with the knowledge of such officer; and here it may not be out of place to mention that to the mechanical skill of Mr. Gall, Inspector of Revenue and Police, I am indebted for the ingenious and effective contrivance by which the stills are at present secured.

4. That stringent legislation was necessary a glance at the subjoined return of revenue received from excise duties during the past four years will clearly show:—

1878.	1879.	1880.	1881.
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
7,986 19 0	9,304 13 2	7,175 10 2	6,117 18 7

5. A comparative statement showing the quantity of rum distilled on the various estates since the coming into operation of "The Rum Duty Ordinance 1881," as compared with that distilled in the corresponding periods prior to its passing, also affords abundant proof that this Ordinance was not passed before it was requisite.

ST. LUCIA.

Revenue and Expenditure.

6. The revenue received in 1881 amounted to 32,291*l.* 9*s.* 1*d.*, or 590*l.* 9*s.* 1*d.* over that estimated for. The principal items which show an increase over previous years are "customs," "licenses," "stamps," and "immigration."

7. Under the head of *Customs*, which realized 18,465*l.* 3*s.* 8*d.*, are comprised "imports" and "tonnage," the former of which, in yielding 17,591*l.* 13*s.* 10*d.*, exceeded by 274*l.* 3*s.* 10*d.* what was obtained from this source in 1880, and shows also an excess of 1,745*l.* 13*s.* 8*d.* over what was obtained in 1879, and of more than 3,000*l.* over the imports in 1877 and 1878 respectively. This increase is attributable chiefly to the development of trade in the past few years. In "tonnage" there was a falling off of 161*l.* 4*s.* 10*d.* This is capable of explanation by the fact that, owing to the prevalence of yellow fever in various parts of the West Indies, strict quarantine was enforced for several months against all infected ports.

8. *Licenses.*—The various licenses issued during the year realized 2,459*l.* 2*s.*, against 2,002*l.* estimated for, giving also an increase of 101*l.* 2*s.* as compared with the previous year.

9. *Stamps.*—The large increase shown (the receipts being more than double that of previous years) was chiefly due to the introduction of a Stamp Ordinance which came into operation on the 16th November 1881. This means of increasing the yearly revenue is working well, and promises to bring in close on 1,000*l.* per annum.

10. *Immigration.*—The increase of 329*l.* 15*s.* above the amount estimated for under the head of immigration contribution is attributable to the large receipts for medical treatment of immigrants in hospital. The admissions to hospital were very numerous during the past year, consequent on a more than usually unhealthy season throughout the West Indies. As compared with 1880, the receipts were 1,111*l.* 11*s.* 9*d.* in excess.

11. The total receipts from all the foregoing sources were 22,490*l.* 11*s.* 6*d.*, as against 19,545*l.* estimated.

12. The less pleasing side of the picture has now to be dealt with, a decrease occurring in the receipts from "Taxes" and "Miscellaneous," which amounted in all to 1,717*l.* 7*s.* 2*d.* Of this sum 1,057*l.* 11*s.* 7*d.* was the decrease in "Rum Duty" alone, to the causes for which I have already alluded in paragraph 2 of the present report.

13. *Rum Duty.*—The duty paid on rum in 1881 amounted to only 6,117*l.* 18*s.* 7*d.* against 8,069*l.* estimated for. Compared with previous years there is a deplorable falling off in the receipts from this source. The subjoined return showing what has been received during the present month evidences an improvement, however, on the two months immediately preceding:—

January.	February.	March.
£ *s.* *d.*	£ *s.* *d.*	£ *s.* *d.*
541 18 4	360 15 4	721 11 3

I am hopeful that this important branch of the revenue will before long return to its former healthy condition.

14. *Road Tax and Fines.*—The second of the two heads comprised under "Taxes" shows a decrease of 176*l.* 3*s.* This, though not a very large sum in itself, is however a significant item. For as the population by the recent census is shown to have considerably increased of late years, larger receipts from "Road Tax" were to have been expected. On inquiry during the course of the year, I found that, owing to the absence of any vigour in the prosecution of defaulters, a great number of those liable to the tax escaped payment. I have since adopted measures by which this tax will in future be properly collected.

14*a*. *Expenditure.*—The total amount expended for the year under consideration was 32,652*l.* 14*s.* 3*d.*, exceeding the estimated expenditure by 1,181*l.* 0*s.* 11*d.*, and that of the previous year by 735*l.* 0*s.* 6*d.*

This extra expenditure was incurred mainly from the votes for "Hospitals," "Public Works," and "Miscellaneous," being insufficient, and in consequence of the exceptional measures that had to be adopted for carrying out a rigid system of quarantine and ensuring proper sanitary arrangements throughout the Island, owing to the prevalence of yellow fever in the West Indies. With what advantage is evidenced by the result that, under Providence, St. Lucia was not visited by any epidemic.

The extent to which contraband goods were introduced and the falling off in the revenue consequent thereon, and from the non-payment of excise duties, necessitated also increased expenditure for the protection of the revenue.

The total overdraft under various heads of service was 2,942*l.* 13*s.* 7*d.* in all. Against this must be placed 1,761*l.* 12*s.* 8*d.*, which was the saving on other votes, thus reducing the over expenditure on the year to 1,181*l.* 0*s.* 11*d.* Of this sum again nearly the whole amount was paid in respect of work standing over from 1880 but completed in 1881, for which no vote had been taken in the latter year, and for extra expenses authorised by votes of the Legislative Council during the year, but not on the estimates.

Public Works.

15. During the past year a considerable amount of work has been done in the Colonial Engineer's department.

16. A new wooden building was constructed for the reception of female prisoners at a cost of 1,163*l.* It is now capable of holding 24 prisoners, and is entirely distinct from the block occupied by prisoners of the other sex. I do not, however, consider the building in question suited for a prison, as, the partitions of the cells being only of wood and the upper portion open, conversation can easily be held between the prisoners. I think, too, that where stone can be obtained, all public buildings, more especially those occupied by a large number of inmates, should be built of that material, as in case of fire the chances of escape from a wooden structure are much diminished. In a gaol more particularly, where all the prisoners are under lock and key, the necessity is still more app arent.

ST. LUCIA.

17. Alterations and additions were also made to the police barracks and to the building set apart as a lunatic asylum. The former serves its purpose admirably and is conveniently situated. The latter, however, not being originally built for an asylum, was neither sufficiently large or adapted for lunatics, more especially dangerous ones; but the transfer of some nine of the most refractory patients to the asylum at Grenada, on your Excellency's suggestion, prevents the necessity of removal. An extension of the space set apart for recreation and one or two minor alterations will be an improvement, and those at time of writing are being carried out.

18. The buildings utilized as a poor house and asylum for incurables, which as well as the lunatic asylum are situated on the Morne, were generally repaired during the year; a bath-room and other out-offices being added. It is, however, intended to separate the incurables and paupers, and another block on the Morne is now being adapted for that purpose.

19. I may mention that the various buildings on the Morne were originally occupied, when the island was garrisoned, as officers' quarters, mess house, barracks, hospital, &c. Of these the hospital has been converted into a Government House, and the other buildings as shown on the accompanying plan.* I may add that all the buildings are in good condition, and were they repaired could again be used for the purpose for which they were originally built.

20. The block of buildings, constituting the public offices at Castries, has undergone extensive repairs. A fireproof room for the safe keeping of the records of the Prothonotary's office was commenced during the past year, and is now nearly completed.

21. Owing to the sittings of the Royal Court satisfactory arrangements could not be made for re-roofing the court house which was in a most dilapidated, not to say dangerous condition. The work, however, for which a supplementary vote was passed, is now in hand.

22. Whilst much was done, more still remains to be effected ere the office accommodation is such as I desire to see it.

23. Though not coming under the head of "Public Works," yet as the improvements to the town of Castries have been made from funds lent from the general revenue, I think it may be desirable to show what has been effected. As your Excellency is aware, on the breaking out of yellow fever in the adjacent Islands, I immediately appointed special inspectors throughout the Colony to report upon the sanitary condition of the various towns and villages; and these officers, I may state, zealously carried out the work entrusted to them.

24. It was found, however, from the funds then at its disposal the Town Board of Castries could not carry out the work required; and as the filling in of swamps, thorough drainage, the general cleansing and whitewashing of the houses of the poorer classes were essential, if we desired to keep fever from our very doors, I permitted the Town Board through its Warden, the Colonial

* Not printed.

Engineer, to draw from general revenue such funds as might be absolutely required. The following works were at once put in hand and completed:—

The public latrines repaired and painted, and one rebuilt on a new site.

The banks of the Castries river cleaned, and the Chaussée twice weeded.

Considerable progress has also been made in filling in the swamp near the church, and all the large culverts from the Chaussée to the sea have been thoroughly repaired.

All the streets, wharves, squares, and market places of the town have been swept daily, and all the yards throughout the town cleansed, and many raised and filled in to improve the drainage.

The wharves have also been repaired and gravelled, and 1,260 feet run of a larger size new water main pipe laid to increase the water supply to the town and the shipping.

2,200 feet run of streets round ridged and gravelled.

2,600 feet run of streets round ridged and macadamized with broken stone.

2,800 feet run of brick and cement drains constructed in streets.

2,200 feet run of footpaths in Portland cement concrete laid.

3,000 feet run of footpaths gravelled.

Victoria, Jeremie, St. Louis, Coral, High, and Grass Streets raised to insure effective drainage.

Six old covered drains in Bridge Street and one in High Street reconstructed, and covered with new iron ventilating grates.

2,700 feet run of brick paved footpaths relaid.

25. To the exertions of the Sanitary Inspectors, who without remuneration gave up their time to make house-to-house visitations, and to the Town Warden I am indebted for the improvement of the town in all respects.

26. I may mention that the funds of the Town Board are being economically used during the current year, with a view to its clearing off the advances made from general revenue.

27. With regard to the roads and bridges of the Colony much good work has been done towards their permanent improvement during the past year.

28. Thirteen new bridges have been erected, 11 new culverts laid down, 22 paved crossings and 36 bridges, moles, and culverts repaired, 205 miles of road drains opened, 86 miles of road weeded and round-ridged, 80 miles and 30 chains gravelled, 6 miles and 16 chains macadamized, and 230 cubic yards of retaining and guard walls erected in masonry in mortar.

29. In the macadamized sections "cantonniers" have been appointed, whose duty consists in keeping the road drains free of grass or bush, in filling in ruts or hollow places the moment they appear with broken stone, which is kept in depôts or recesses formed in the side of the road. Each cantonnier is provided with a wheel-barrow, a shovel, a pick-axe, a hoe, and a cutlass, and any other tools which may be requisite for the proper maintenance of the section of road under his care.

ST. LUCIA.

30. It might be supposed that the system herein described of keeping men constantly employed on the roads is attended with great and unnecessary expense; but this opinion is not entertained by those who have tried other methods. It will be found in this, as in most other cases, that the old adage is true which asserts that "prevention is better than cure," as it is vastly cheaper to prevent a road getting out of repair than to restore it, when neglected, to a proper state.

31. I have in the current year instructed the Colonial Engineer, in whose charge the roads of the Colony are, to call for tenders and contract with those planters through or adjacent to whose estates the main and minor roads pass for their repair and upkeep. In the course of my experience I have found that persons to whom good roads are of such vital importance in the conduct of their business, give more time and attention to keep them in repair than the ordinary contractor, whose chief aim is to make as much for himself out of the contract as possible.

Legislation.

32. There were 24 Ordinances passed during the year. Some very important enactments are included among this number.

33. "The Lunatic Transfer Ordinance" provided for the removal of some refractory lunatics at St. Lucia to the asylum at Grenada, where, while their confinement is more secure, their comfort is better ensured. The purpose of the Ordinance has been attained, and the lunatics removed are well cared for.

34. The Ordinance "To impose a License upon Boats" is another important measure. This Ordinance was introduced not so much to raise the revenue, as to ensure the more easy detection of persons engaged in smuggling. Every boat is now conspicuously marked with a number. Licenses are issued annually, and can be withdrawn in the event of a boat being employed for any illegal purpose. An unlicensed boat may be seized and sold. Nearly 600 licenses have been issued during the year.

35. The Ordinance "To provide against the Pollution of Streams," was passed at a time when the fear of fever was predominant. Benefit has already been derived from it, more especially in the town of Castries, the noxious odours from the Castries river having almost entirely disappeared.

36. "The Stamp Duty Ordinance" is one of the most important results of the year's legislation. As a financial measure, I have already said that it is expected to realize close on 1,000*l.* per annum.

37. Not secondary to it, in point of importance, is "The Rum Duty Ordinance," the necessity for the introduction of which I have already pointed out in paragraphs 2 and 3 of this report. It is working satisfactorily, and has already produced beneficial results.

38. The chief and most important enactment of the year under review is "The Trade Ordinance." The import tariff was carefully revised, and, wherever practicable specific duties were substituted for "ad valorem" ones.

With regard to the remaining Ordinances, the laws relating to the "Police," the "Post Office," and "Public Vaccination," have been amended and consolidated. With respect to the "Police" I am happy to be able to state that, while expenditure has been diminished, the efficiency of the force has not in any way been impaired. One sub-inspector has already been transferred to another department, and I am hopeful that the office of the second will shortly be abolished.

Civil Establishment.

40. There is not much to remark on this point. The principal change in the "Civil Establishment" was the formation of the audit department. Large sums had been for some time systematically abstracted from the public moneys at the Treasury, and it was deemed essential, on the discovery of the defalcations, to establish the department of audit on a more independent footing than that on which it had formerly stood. The office of Auditor, or as it was called Accountant, had been held in conjunction with that of Registrar, &c. by Mr. Alexander Clavier, but the multiplicity of this officer's duties rendered it necessary that he should be relieved of the auditing of accounts, &c., and Mr. John Semper was appointed to the office.

41. In respect of changes in the holders of offices, Mr. Jones' appointment as Stipendiary Magistrate of the First District, *vice* Mr. Charles Maclean, deceased, was the only notable change. Mr. Armstrong resigned on pension the Chief Justiceship of St. Lucia on the 1st December, but up to the close of the year his successor had not been appointed.

Population.

42. I shall pass over the head of "Population" with a few cursory remarks. The census, as your Excellency is aware, was taken during the year, and gives a population of 38,551, showing an increase of 6,941 over the population as taken in 1871. The vital statistics evidence that this increase has been steady and uniform, and there is no reason to doubt its continuance. This Island is capable of supporting a far larger population than the present, and the prosperity of St. Lucia depends to a great extent upon the introduction of labour. It is hoped that the inducement held out to immigrants from Barbados will result in our securing some of its surplus population.

Education.

43. The educational system of the Colony is far from satisfactory. Schools have been established in all the towns and villages throughout the Island, with the exception of Ause-la-Raye and Canaries, and are maintained chiefly at the Government expense. But as attendance is not compulsory, the number of children on the rolls is very small. I have for some time had the question of education under my consideration, and I propose ere long to lay before your Excellency my views on this important subject.

ST. LUCIA.

Imports and Exports.

44. *Imports.* — The revenue received during the year from "Customs," under which head are included "Imports" and "Tonnage," compares not unfavourably with that of preceding years, realizing a gross total of 18,465*l.* 3*s.* 8*d.*, against 18,352*l.* 4*s.* 8*d.* in 1880, 16,933*l.* 4*s.* 8*d.* in 1879, and 15,254*l.* 4*s.* 11*d.* in 1878. This shows, if not a very large, at all events a substantial increase on former years, and sufficiently exemplifies the fact that the Colony, though slowly, is in reality advancing.

45. The following table shows the increase or decrease in the principal imports in 1881, as compared with the previous year :—

—	1880.			1881.			Increase.			Decrease.		
	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*
Ale, beer, porter (wood)	256	10	0	227	6	6	—			29	3	6
„ „ „ (bottle)	29	16	3	23	12	6	—			6	3	9
Animals - -	31	6	0	12	2	9	—			19	3	3
Butter - - -	349	16	11	385	18	11	36	2	0	—		
Candles - -	208	11	5	144	10	5	—			64	1	0
Coffee - - -	127	17	5	88	15	3	—			39	2	0
Corn, wheat, flour, &c. -	1,916	1	6	2,753	9	8	837	8	2	—		
Cottons, woollens, &c. -	2,749	18	3	2,002	16	0	—			747	2	3
Fish, salted - -	1,577	12	6	1,190	17	5	–			386	15	1
Hardware - -	395	7	0	294	12	6	—			100	14	6
Hats and Bonnets -	116	1	9	98	2	10	—			17	18	11
Lard - - -	330	6	3	385	13	11	55	7	8	—		
Leather - -	459	15	0	279	8	3	—			180	6	9
Meats, hams, bacon -	92	18	2	78	16	1	—			14	2	1
Meats (other kinds) -	663	16	8	721	2	4	57	5	8	—		
Oil, kerosine - -	83	17	7	125	11	6	41	13	11	—		
Oil, olive - -	180	0	1	234	9	7	54	9	6	—		
Rice - - -	695	6	9	1,178	9	0	483	2	3	—		
Silk manufactures -	108	6	0	119	10	3	11	4	3	—		
Soap - - -	177	16	9	164	10	10	—			13	5	11
Spirits - - -	1,027	6	8	1,477	15	0	450	8	4	—		
Sugar - - -	306	16	8	542	2	5	35	5	9	—		
Cigars, tobacco manufactured and unmanufactured - - -	2,706	1	8	2,858	13	4	152	11	8	—		
Wines - - -	363	17	0	433	0	4	69	3	4	—		
Wood, lumber - -	732	15	2	530	7	9	—			202	7	5
„ shingles - -	303	15	9	223	1	0	—			80	14	9

46. The increase in the amount of corn, wheat, flour, &c. imported is worthy of notice.

47. The falling off in duties received from cotton and woollen goods was owing to the large surplus stock remaining on hand at the end of 1880.

48. A considerable decrease appears under "Fish salted;" I am informed that this is owing to the fact that a better and more expensive sort of fish is imported, and that in consequence there is not so large a consumption of the former.

49. The very large receipt from rice is in a measure attributable to our increasing Coolie population, they being large consumers of this article.

50. Spirits yielded nearly half as much again as in 1880, a fact which goes far to prove that the measures adopted for the suppression of smuggling were not without effect.

51. *Exports.*—The quantity of articles exported in 1881 compares unfavourably with the preceding year, the total value being only 168,478*l.* 10*s.* 8*d.* against 194,694*l.* 10*s.* 1*d.* This is mainly attributable to the sugar crop having been a small one, and considerably below that of an average year.

52. In 1880 13,332,800 lbs. of sugar were exported, whilst 9,481,250 lbs. completed the total for 1881, showing a decrease of 3,851,550 lbs., or nearly 4,000,000 lbs. weight less.

53. Molasses also showed a falling off, 226,800 gallons only having been exported, against 250,200 gallons in 1880.

54. Crystallized sugar showed a slight improvement, 820 tons being supplied to the home markets, as compared with 629½ tons in 1880. This is satisfactory, as showing an improvement in the central sugar factory in which this Government has so large an interest. This factory, which has hitherto been considered in the light of anything but a paying concern, has now entered upon a different phase of existence, and it may not be out of place for me to mention here that its out-turn this year will be about 1,600 tons, against 800 last season. Great praise is due to Mr. Rousselot, the manager, who has been the means of bringing about this satisfactory result; and whilst the factory may now be considered a paying concern, it will afford satisfaction to the Government and shareholders to know that the yield of sugar is capable of still further extension, and that next year, with an equally good season for the growth of the canes, 2,000 tons of sugar may be counted upon.

55. I am glad to be able to report that there is a small, but steady and progressive improvement in cocoa, 524,612 lbs. having been exported in the year under consideration, against 438,108 lbs. in 1880. This industry is improving, and ere long will be in a thriving condition, as its value is being generally recognized.

56. In cocoanuts, farine, fresh vegetables, ginger, hides, and oil (fish) there has been a considerable falling off.

57. The quantity of logwood exported has increased from 1,724 tons to 2,046 in 1881.

Agriculture.

58. It must be remembered that at present but one fifth of the whole Island is in cultivation, and that a large field is open to those desirous of investing money in a Colony where the soil is exceptionally good, the downfall of rain not precarious (as in

ST. LUCIA.

many of the West Indian Islands), and with a climate which will, as a tropical one, compare favourably with that of any of the group. The climate and soil are suitable for the production of sugar, cocoa, coffee, tobacco, ground nuts, arrowroot, ginger, cotton, and a variety of other products too numerous to mention. For the cultivation of ground provisions, I have rarely seen a tropical climate more suitable, and this may in a measure be owing to the variety of temperature at different elevations. On the Morne, where Government House is situated, some 900 feet above the level of the sea, I have grown potatoes, beans, cabbages, lettuce, carrots, turnips, &c. not inferior to what one ordinarily sees grown in England. Of vegetables usually grown in the tropics, yams, garden eggs, tanias, christophines, sweet potatoes, ochros, peas, beans, &c. are produced in large quantities, and I am hopeful, in view of the increasing number of steamers which will probably touch at the Island when the harbour improvements are effected, that I shall be able to induce small proprietors to cultivate sufficiently largely to supply the requirements of all classes of vessels. With so large an amount of land uncultivated it can well be understood that there is plenty of pasturage, and St. Lucia is quite capable of not only supplying its own wants but those also of other islands, were less apathy and indifference shown in the breeding of stock.

Hospitals.

59. There was a large number of patients in hospital throughout the year; this was owing to a not very healthy season. Coolies especially were affected by sickness and formed always the majority of those under treatment in the general and district hospitals.

60. In conclusion, however, it affords me much pleasure to be able to state that the health of the Colony was, on the whole exceptionally good, considering the fever which prevailed in some of the other Islands.

I have, &c.

(Signed) ROGER TUCKFIELD GOLDSWORTHY,
Administrator.

His Excellency
Governor Robinson, C.M.G.
&c. &c. &c.

Return of Distillations on the following Plantations, from 1st January to 31st March 1882, under the operation of the Rum Duty Ordinance, No. 15, of 19th November 1881, compared with Distillations during the same Period in the previous Year.

Dates.	Distillations.	Dates.	Distillations.
1882.	*Marquis Plantation.*	1881.	*Marquis Plantation.*
January 5	17 gallons, proof 21.	January 5	20 gallons, proof 20.
„ 6	33 „ „ 21.	„ 6	24 „ „ 20.
„ 7	24 „ „ 22.	„ 7	20 „ „ 20.
„ 8		„ 8	20 „ „ 19.
„ 9		„ 9	
„ 10		„ 10	
„ 11		„ 11	28 gallons, proof 18.
„ 12		„ 12	
„ 13	26 gallons, proof 22.	„ 13	30 gallons, proof 18.
„ 14	28 „ „ 21 and 23.	„ 14	16 „ „ 19.
„ 15		„ 15	
„ 16	24 gallons, proof 22.	„ 16	
„ 17	32 „ „ 20 and 22.	„ 17	
„ 18	26 gallons, proof 20 and 22.	„ 18	34 gallons, proof 20.
„ 19	24 gallons, proof 20 and 22.	„ 19	
„ 20	6 gallons, proof 26.	„ 20	18 gallons, proo 19
„ 21		„ 21	
„ 22		„ 22	
„ 23		„ 23	
„ 24		„ 24	20 gallons, proof 19.
„ 25		„ 25	27 „ „ 19.
„ 26		„ 26	19 „ „ 19.
„ 27		„ 27	30 „ „ 19.
„ 28		„ 28	24 „ „ 19.
„ 29		„ 29	
„ 30		„ 30	
„ 31		„ 31	25 gallons, proof 20.
February 1		February 1	24 „ „ 20.
„ 2		„ 2	
„ 3		„ 3	
„ 4		„ 4	18 gallons, proof 19.
„ 5		„ 5	
„ 6		„ 6	
„ 7		„ 7	22 gallons, proof 19.
„ 8		„ 8	22 „ „ 19.
„ 9		„ 9	19 „ „ 20.
„ 10	42 gallons, proof 18, 20, and 22.	„ 10	
„ 11	44 gallons, proof 19 and 22.	„ 11	15 gallons, proof 20.
„ 12		„ 12	
„ 13	38 gallons, proof 19 and 22.	„ 13	
„ 14	80 gallons, proof 19 and 22.	„ 14	
„ 15	33 gallons, proof 20 and 26.	„ 15	
„ 16	70 gallons, proof 21.	„ 16	15 gallons, proof 20.
„ 17	72 „ „ 20 and 21.	„ 17	
„ 18	36 gallons, proof 21 and 22.	„ 18	
		„ 19	
		„ 20	
		„ 21	
		„ 22	
		„ 23	
		„ 24	
		„ 25	
		„ 26	
		„ 27	
		„ 28	
		March 1	

ST. LUCIA.

Dates.	Distillations.	Dates.	Distillations.
1882.	*Marquis Plantation*—cont.	1881.	*Marquis Plantation*—cont.
February 19		March 2	
„ 20	28 gallons, proof 20 and 22.	„ 3	
„ 21	83 gallons, proof 20 and 22.	„ 4	
„ 22	72 gallons, proof 20 and 27.	„ 5	
„ 23	37 gallons, proof 22.	„ 6	
„ 24	38 „ „ 21.	„ 7	
„ 25	30 „ „ 21 and 22.	„ 8	
„ 26		„ 9	
„ 27		„ 10	
„ 28	35 gallons, proof 21 and 22.	„ 11	
March 1	40 gallons, proof 20.	„ 12	
„ 2	79 „ „ 19 and 20.	„ 13	
„ 3	86 gallons, proof 20 and 21.	„ 14	
„ 4	40 gallons, proof 21.	„ 15	13 gallons, proof 18.
„ 5		„ 16	
„ 6	36 gallons, proof 20 and 22.	„ 17	
„ 7	80 gallons, proof 20 and 22.	„ 18	
„ 8	44 gallons, proof 20.	„ 19	
„ 9	43 „ „ 20.	„ 20	
„ 10	48 „ „ 20.	„ 21	
„ 11	31 „ „ 22.	„ 22	
„ 12		„ 23	17 gallons, proof 18.
„ 13		„ 24	12 „ „ 18.
„ 14	41 gallons, proof 20.	„ 25	
„ 15	75 „ „ 20.	„ 26	
„ 16	79 „ „ 20 and 22.	„ 27	
„ 17	83 gallons, proof 20 and 22.	„ 28	20 gallons, proof 19.
„ 18	40 gallons, proof 22.	„ 29	33 „ „ 19.
„ 19		„ 30	
„ 20	53 gallons, proof 20 and 25.	„ 31	
„ 21	71 gallons, proof 19 and 24.		
„ 22	40 gallons, proof 22.		
„ 23	100 „ „ 20 and 23.		
„ 24	77 gallons, proof 20 and 23.		
„ 25	28 gallons, proof 22 and 25.		
„ 26			
„ 27	42 gallons, proof 20.		
„ 28	70 „ „ 20.		
„ 29	70 „ „ 18 and 22.		
„ 30	79 gallons, proof 18 and 22.		
„ 31	78 gallons, proof 18 and 21.		
Total -	2,531 gallons.	Total -	585 gallons.

Dates.	Distillations.	Dates.	Distillations.
1882.	*Ruby Plantation.*	1881.	*Ruby Plantation.*
January 1		January 1	14 gallons, proof 20 and 21.
„ 2		„ 2	
„ 3		„ 3	
„ 4		„ 4	
„ 5		„ 5	
„ 6		„ 6	
„ 7		„ 7	11 gallons, proof 20.
„ 8		„ 8	9 „ „ 20 and 22.
„ 9		„ 9	
„ 10		„ 10	9 gallons, proof 20.
„ 11		„ 11	9 „ „ 21.
„ 12		„ 12	13 „ „ 24.
„ 13		„ 13	
„ 14		„ 14	9 gallons, proof 24.
„ 15		„ 15	9 „ „ 20.
„ 16		„ 16	
„ 17		„ 17	9 gallons, proof 24.
„ 18		„ 18	10 „ „ 24.
„ 19		„ 19	9 „ „ 24.
„ 20		„ 20	
„ 21		„ 21	
„ 22		„ 22	13 gallons, proof 24.
„ 23		„ 23	
„ 24	26 gallons, proof 19.	„ 24	10 gallons, proof 24.
„ 25	38 „ „ 19.	„ 25	
„ 26		„ 26	6 gallons, proof 24.
„ 27		„ 27	
„ 28	31 gallons, proof 18.	„ 28	16 gallons, proof 20.
„ 29		„ 29	26 „ „ 20.
„ 30	29 gallons, proof 18.	„ 30	
„ 31	66 „ „ 19 and 24.	„ 31	11 gallons, proof 24.
February 1	29 gallons, proof 18.	February 1	9 „ „ 24.
„ 2	28 „ „ 18 and 22.	„ 2	9 „ „ 24.
„ 3	32 gallons, proof 19.	„ 3	7 „ „ 24.
„ 4	35 „ „ 19.	„ 4	
„ 5		„ 5	10 gallons, proof 20.
„ 6	65 gallons, proof 20.	„ 6	
„ 7	45 „ „ 18.	„ 7	13 gallons, proof 21.
„ 8	27 „ „ 19.	„ 8	
„ 9	63 „ „ 19.	„ 9	13 gallons, proof 20.
„ 10	60 „ „ 19.	„ 10	17 „ „ 20.
„ 11	29 „ „ 19.	„ 11	
„ 12		„ 12	22 gallons, proof 22.
„ 13		„ 13	
„ 14	33 gallons, proof 20.	„ 14	25 gallons, proof 20 and 23.
„ 15	54 „ „ 20.	„ 15	
„ 16	41 „ „ 19.	„ 16	23 gallons, proof 20 and 21.
„ 17	24 „ „ 19.	„ 17	
„ 18	24 „ „ 19.	„ 18	18 gallons, proof 20 and 22.
„ 19		„ 19	32 gallons, proof 20 and 24.
„ 20	30 gallons, proof 20.	„ 20	
„ 21	83 „ „ 19 and 20.	„ 21	7 gallons, proof 22.
„ 22	41 gallons, proof 19.	„ 22	18 „ „ and 23.
„ 23	46 „ „ 19.	„ 23	16 gallons, proof 21.
„ 24	65 „ „ 19.	„ 24	16 „ „ 20 and 25.
„ 25			
„ 26			
„ 27	75 gallons, proof 19 and 20.		
„ 28	38 gallons, proof 18.		

ST. LUCIA.

Dates.	Distillations.	Dates.	Distillations.
1882.	*Ruby Plantation*—cont.	1881.	*Ruby Plantation*—cont.
March 1	26 gallons, proof 18.	February 25	
„ 2	74 „ „ 18 and 20.	„ 26	12 gallons, proof 20 and 26.
„ 3	39 gallons, proof 18 and 20.	„ 27	
„ 4	48 gallons, proof 18 and 19.	„ 28	15 gallons, proof 20 and 24.
„ 5		March 1	20 gallons, proof 20 and 25.
„ 6	29 gallons, proof 20.	„ 2	
„ 7	34 „ „ 18 and 22.	„ 3	27 gallons, proof 20 and 25.
„ 8	39 gallons, proof 19 and 20.	„ 4	
„ 9	39 gallons, proof 19 and 20.	„ 5	21 gallons, proof 20.
„ 10	36 gallons, proof 19.	„ 6	
„ 11		„ 7	17 gallons, proof 22.
„ 12		„ 8	35 „ „ 20.
„ 13	38 gallons, proof 20.	„ 9	33 „ „ 24.
„ 14	36 „ „ 20.	„ 10	30 „ „ 22.
„ 15		„ 11	
„ 16	90 gallons, proof 20.	„ 12	19 gallons, proof 22.
„ 17	45 „ „ 20.	„ 13	
„ 18	37 „ „ 18 and 20.	„ 14	27 gallons, proof 20.
„ 19		„ 15	
„ 20	41 gallons, proof 18 and 20.	„ 16	24 gallons, proof 20.
„ 21	67 gallons, proof 19 and 20.	„ 17	
„ 22	44 gallons, proof 20.	„ 18	21 gallons, proof 20.
„ 23	86 „ „ 18 and 20.	„ 19	13 „ „ 20.
„ 24	40 gallons, proof 20.	„ 20	
„ 25		„ 21	16 gallons, proof 21.
„ 26		„ 22	26 „ „ 20.
„ 27	42 gallons, proof 19 and 20.	„ 23	34 „ „ 20.
„ 28	41 gallons, proof 19.	„ 24	14 „ „ 20.
„ 29	43 „ „ 18 and 19.	„ 25	32 „ „ 20 and 24.
„ 30	45 gallons, proof 20.	„ 26	26 „ „ 18.
„ 31	37 „ „ 19 and 20.	„ 27	
		„ 28	31 gallons, proof 18 and 24.
		„ 29	23 gallons, proof 20 and 24.
		„ 30	27 gallons, proof 19 and 25.
		„ 31	38 gallons, proof 18 and 25.
Total -	2,253 gallons.	Total -	1,029 gallons.
1882.	*Palmisk Plantation.*	1881.	*Palmisk Plantation.*
January 22		January 22	32 gallons, proof 21 and 24.
„ 23		„ 23	
„ 24		„ 24	
„ 25		„ 25	
„ 26		„ 26	
„ 27		„ 27	13 gallons, proof 21 and 24.
„ 28		„ 28	
„ 29		„ 29	
„ 30		„ 30	
„ 31		„ 31	
February 1			
„ 2			

Dates.	Distillations.	Dates.	Distillations.
1882.	*Palmisk Plantation*—cont.	1881.	*Palmisk Plantalion*—cont.
February 3		February 1	
„ 4		„ 2	
„ 5		„ 3	9 gallons, proof 21.
„ 6		„ 4	
„ 7		„ 5	12 gallons, proof 24.
„ 8		„ 6	
„ 9		„ 7	15 gallons, proof 21 and 26.
„ 10			
„ 11		„ 8	
„ 12		„ 9	
„ 13		„ 10	
„ 14		„ 11	
„ 15		„ 12	19 gallons, proof 21 and 24.
„ 16			
„ 17		„ 13	
„ 18		„ 14	
„ 19		„ 15	18 gallons, proof 21.
„ 20		„ 16	
„ 21		„ 17	15 gallons, proof 21.
„ 22		„ 18	
„ 23		„ 19	31 gallons, proof 21 and 24.
„ 24	27 gallons, proof 25.		
„ 25	45 „ „ 22.	„ 20	
„ 26		„ 21	
„ 27	38 gallons, proof 22.	„ 22	
„ 28	53 „ „ 21.	„ 23	
March 1	40 „ „ 21.	„ 24	25 gallons, proof 20 and 24.
„ 2			
„ 3		„ 25	
„ 4		„ 26	44 gallons, proof 20 and 24.
„ 5			
„ 6	67 gallons, proof 21.	„ 27	
„ 7	29 „ „ 21.	„ 28	
„ 8		March 1	18 gallons, proof 19.
„ 9		„ 2	18 „ „ 19.
„ 10		„ 3	
„ 11		„ 4	19 gallons, proof 19.
„ 12		„ 5	36 „ „ 19 and 22.
„ 13	43 gallons, proof 21.,		
„ 14	65 „ „ 21.	„ 6	
„ 15		„ 7	
„ 16		„ 8	
„ 17	48 gallons, proof 20.	„ 9	22 gallons, proof 22.
„ 18	41 „ „ 20.	„ 10	18 „ „ 20 and 22.
„ 19			
„ 20		„ 11	
„ 21	47 gallons, proof 20 and 23	„ 12	18 gallons, proof 20 and 22.
„ 22	75 gallons, proof 20 and 21.	„ 13	
		„ 14	
„ 23		„ 15	17 gallons, proof 20
„ 24	62 gallons, proof 21.	„ 16	
„ 25	47 „ „ 21.	„ 17	18 gallons, proof 20 and 20.
„ 26			
„ 27		„ 18	
„ 28		„ 19	18 gallons, proof 20.
„ 29	80 gallons, proof 21.	„ 20	
„ 30	52 „ „ 21.	„ 21	18 gallons, proof 20 and 22.
„ 31	94 „ „ 20 and 21.		
		„ 22	15 gallons, proof 20.
		„ 23	

Dates.	Distillations.	Dates.	Distillations.
1882.	*Palmisk Plantation*—cont.	1881.	*Palmisk Plantation*—cont.
		March 24	
		„ 25	18 gallons, proof 20.
		„ 26	18 „ „ 20.
		„ 27	
		„ 28	17 gallons, proof 20 and 23.
		„ 29	
		„ 30	
		„ 31	17 gallons, proof 20.
Total -	953 gallons.	Total -	538 gallons.
1882.	*Reunion Plantation.*	1881.	*Reunion Plantation.*
January 4		January 4	17 gallons, proof 20.
„ 5		„ 5	
„ 6		„ 6	
„ 7		„ 7	
„ 8		„ 8	17 gallons, proof 20.
„ 9		„ 9	
„ 10		„ 10	18 gallons, proof 19 and 20.
„ 11			
„ 12		„ 11	
„ 13	36 gallons, proof 23.	„ 12	18 gallons, proof 19.
„ 14	35 „ „ 22.	„ 13	22 „ „ 19 and 20.
„ 15			
„ 16		„ 14	
„ 17		„ 15	19 gallons, proof 20.
„ 18		„ 16	
„ 19		„ 17	
„ 20	38 gallons, proof 21.	„ 18	18 gallons, proof 20.
„ 21	34 „ „ 21.	„ 19	
„ 22		„ 20	
„ 23		„ 21	20 gallons, proof 20.
„ 24	42 gallons, proof 21.	„ 22	22 „ „ 20.
„ 25	37 „ „ 24.	„ 23	
„ 26	30 „ „ 22.	„ 24	23 gallons, proof 19.
„ 27	51 „ „ 21.	„ 25	17 „ „ 18 and 20.
„ 28	38 „ „ 21.		
„ 29		„ 26	23 gallons, proof 20.
„ 30		„ 27	25 „ „ 20.
„ 31	52 gallons, proof 21.	„ 28	
February 1	44 „ „ 21.	„ 29	22 gallons, proof 20.
„ 2	46 „ „ 21.	„ 30	
„ 3	40 „ „ 21.	„ 31	29 gallons, proof 20.
„ 4	47 „ „ 21.	February 1	28 „ „ 20.
„ 5		„ 2	28 „ „ 20.
„ 6	60 gallons, proof 21.	„ 3	32 „ „ 20.
„ 7	53 „ „ 21.	„ 4	29 „ „ 20.
„ 8	67 „ „ 21 and 24.	„ 5	21 „ „ 20.
		„ 6	
„ 9	49 gallons, proof 21.	„ 7	27 gallons, proof 20.
„ 10	28 „ „ 21 and 24.	„ 8	38 „ „ 18. and 20.
„ 11		„ 9	22 gallons, proof 18 and 20.
„ 12			
„ 13	40 gallons, proof 21.	„ 10	
„ 14	48 „ „ 21.	„ 11	
„ 15	49 „ „ 21.	„ 12	25 gallons, proof 20.
„ 16	47 „ „ 21.	„ 13	
„ 17	37 „ „ 21.	„ 14	29 gallons, proof 18 and 20.
„ 18	45 „ „ 20.		

Dates.	Distillations.	Dates.	Distillations.
1882.	*Reunion Plantation*—cont.	1881.	*Reunion Plantation*—cont.
February 19		February 15	
„ 20	53 gallons, proof 21.	„ 16	33 gallons, proof 20.
„ 21	45 „ „ 21 and 22.	„ 17	37 „ „ 19 and 20.
„ 22	58 gallons, proof 21.	„ 18	49 gallons, proof 18 and 20.
„ 23	44 „ „ 21.	„ 19	26 gallons, proof 17 and 18.
„ 24	45 „ „ 21.	„ 20	
„ 25	50 „ „ 21.	„ 21	27 gallons, proof 18 and 21.
„ 26		„ 22	29 gallons, proof 19.
„ 27	62 gallons, proof 21 and 22.	„ 23	30 „ „ 20.
„ 28	38 gallons, proof 21.	„ 24	29 „ „ 20.
March 1	86 „ „ 21 and 22.	„ 25	31 „ „ 20.
„ 2	40 gallons, proof 22.	„ 26	30 „ „ 21.
„ 3	43 „ „ 21.	„ 27	
„ 4	38 „ „ 24.	„ 28	31 gallons, proof 21.
„ 5		March 1	29 „ „ 21.
„ 6	37 gallons, proof 24.	„ 2	
„ 7	85 „ „ 21.	„ 3	44 gallons, proof 20 and 21.
„ 8	76 „ „ 21.	„ 4	36 gallons, proof 18 and 20.
„ 9	100 „ „ 21.	„ 5	33 gallons, proof 19.
„ 10		„ 6	
„ 11		„ 7	30 gallons, proof 21.
„ 12		„ 8	32 „ „ 20.
„ 13	81 gallons, proof 22.	„ 9	51 „ „ 18.
„ 14		„ 10	38 „ „ 20.
„ 15	69 gallons, proof 21 and 22.	„ 11	46 „ „ 20.
„ 16	82 gallons, proof 24.	„ 12	40 „ „ 19.
„ 17	90 „ „ 24.	„ 13	
„ 18	84 „ „ 24.	„ 14	39 gallons, proof 20.
„ 19		„ 15	36 „ „ 20.
„ 20	79 gallons, proof 20, 21, and 24.	„ 16	79 „ „ 19.
„ 21	38 gallons, proof 23.	„ 17	89 „ „ 19.
„ 22	50 „ „ 21.	„ 18	39 „ „ 18.
„ 23		„ 19	39 „ „ 20.
„ 24		„ 20	
„ 25	45 gallons, proof 21.	„ 21	51 gallons, proof 19.
„ 26		„ 22	36 „ „ 19.
„ 27	65 gallons, proof 21 and 22.	„ 23	40 „ „ 19.
„ 28	69 gallons, proof 23.	„ 24	40 „ „ 19.
„ 29	21 „ „ 21.	„ 25	85 „ „ 19.
„ 30	69 „ „ 24.	„ 26	64 „ „ 20.
„ 31	52 „ „ 23.	„ 27	
		„ 28	36 gallons, proof 20.
		„ 29	40 „ „ 20.
		„ 30	36 „ „ 19.
		„ 31	36 „ „ 20.
Total -	2,887 gallons.	Total -	2,105 gallons.
	Foud Plantation.		*Foud Plantation.*
January 31	28 gallons, proof 19.	January 31	
February 1	33 „ „ 19.	February 1	
„ 2	23 „ „ 19.	„ 2	
„ 3	25 „ „ 19.	„ 3	
„ 4		„ 4	

Dates.	Distillations.	Dates.	Distillations.
1882.	*Foud Plantation.*—cont.	1881.	*Foud Plantation.*—cont.
February 5		February 5	
„ 6		„ 6	
„ 7		„ 7	36 gallons, proof 19.
„ 8		„ 8	
„ 9		„ 9	
„ 10		„ 10	
„ 11		„ 11	
„ 12		„ 12	
„ 13	55 gallons, proof 19.	„ 13	
„ 14	42 „ „ 19.	„ 14	
„ 15	49 „ „ 19.	„ 15	30 gallons, proof 19.
„ 16	53 „ „ 19.	„ 16	
„ 17	57 „ „ 19.	„ 17	
„ 18		„ 18	
„ 19		„ 19	40 gallons, proof 19.
„ 20		„ 20	
„ 21		„ 21	39 gallons, proof 19.
„ 22		„ 22	
„ 23	64 gallons, proof 19.	„ 23	38 gallons, proof 19.
„ 24	50 „ „ 19.	„ 24	
„ 25	50 „ „ 18.	„ 25	
„ 26		„ 26	
„ 27		„ 27	
„ 28		„ 28	34 gallons, proof 19.
arch 1		March 1	
„ 2		„ 2	
„ 3		„ 3	36 gallons, proof 19.
„ 4		„ 4	
„ 5		„ 5	50 gallons, proof 18.
„ 6	43 gallons, proof 17 and 19.	„ 6	
„ 7	52 gallons, proof 18.	„ 7	
„ 8	58 „ „ 18.	„ 8	
„ 9	47 „ „ 17 and 18.	„ 9	45 gallons, proof 19.
„ 10	58 gallons, proof 19.	„ 10	38 „ „ 19.
„ 11	63 „ „ 19.	„ 11	
„ 12		„ 12	
„ 13	45 gallons, proof 19.	„ 13	
„ 14	61 „ „ 18.	„ 14	
„ 15	63 „ „ 18.	„ 15	
„ 16	61 „ „ 18.	„ 16	43 gallons, proof 19.
„ 17	61 „ „ 18.	„ 17	63 „ „ 18.
„ 18	62 „ „ 18.	„ 18	
„ 19		„ 19	50 gallons, proof 19.
„ 20	60 gallons, proof 18.	„ 20	
„ 21	63 „ „ 18.	„ 21	44 gallons, proof 18.
„ 22	59 „ „ 18.	„ 22	
„ 23	50 „ „ 18.	„ 23	
„ 24	52 „ „ 18.	„ 24	54 gallons, proof 18.
„ 25	58 „ „ 18.	„ 25	
„ 26		„ 26	57 gallons, proof 18.
„ 27	67 gallons, proof 18.	„ 27	
„ 28	65 „ „ 18.	„ 28	43 gallons, proof 18.
„ 29	62 „ „ 18.	„ 29	43 „ „ 18.
„ 30	60 „ „ 18.	„ 30	
„ 31	61 „ „ 18.	„ 31	
Total -	1,860 gallons.	Total -	783 gallons.

Dates.	Distillations.	Dates.	Distillations.
1882.	*Ressource Plantation.*	1881.	*Ressource Plantation.*
ebruary 23	26 gallons, proof 22.	February 23	29 gallons, proof 20.
„ 24	57 „ „ 21.	„ 24	32 „ „ 20.
„ 25	43 „ „ 21.	„ 25	32 „ „ 20.
„ 26		„ 26	20 „ „ 20.
„ 27	45 gallons, proof 21.	„ 27	
„ 28	52 „ „ 22 and 23.	„ 28	13 gallons, proof 22.
March 1	31 gallons, proof 22.	March 1	31 „ „ 19 and 20.
„ 2	54 „ „ 19 and 20.	„ 2	30 gallons, proof 19.
„ 3	42 gallons, proof 21 and 23.	„ 3	63 „ „ 19 and 20.
„ 4	29 gallons, procf 23.	„ 4	31 gallons, proof 20.
„ 5		„ 5	29 „ „ 20.
„ 6	31 gallons, proof 23 and 25.	„ 6	
„ 7		„ 7	25 gallons, proof 22.
„ 8		„ 8	
„ 9	25 gallons, proof 22.	„ 9	65 gallons, proof 20.
„ 10	46 „ „ 21.	„ 10	47 „ „ 20.
„ 11	41 „ „ 21.	„ 11	48 „ „ 20.
„ 12		„ 12	49 „ „ 19.
„ 13	43 gallons, proof 21 and 22.	„ 13	
„ 14	43 gallons, proof 21.	„ 14	33 gallons, proof 19 and 20.
„ 15	45 „ „ 21.	„ 15	45 gallons, proof 19.
„ 16	42 „ „ 21.	„ 16	47 „ „ 19.
„ 17	46 „ „ 21.	„ 17	52 „ „ 20.
„ 18	48 „ „ 22.	„ 18	64 „ „ 20.
„ 19		„ 19	20 „ „ 20.
„ 20	39 gallons, proof 21.	„ 20	
„ 21	53 „ „ 21 and 22.	„ 21	17 gallons, proof 20.
„ 22	42 gallons, proof 21 and 22.	„ 22	64 „ „ 20.
„ 23	41 gallons, proof 21 and 22.	„ 23	61 „ „ 20 and 22.
„ 24	60 gallons, proof 20 and 22.	„ 24	43 gallons, proof 20.
„ 25	42 gallons, proof 19 and 20.	„ 25	53 „ „ 21 and 23.
„ 26		„ 26	
„ 27		„ 27	47 gallons, proof 22.
„ 28	18 gallons, proof 22.	„ 28	48 „ „ 21 and 22.
„ 29	55 „ „ 20.	„ 29	46 gallons, proof 22.
„ 30	48 „ „ 19.	„ 30	42 „ „ 22.
„ 31	56 „ „ 20.	„ 31	42 „ „ 21.
Total -	1,243 gallons.	Total -	1,268 gallons.

FER. DEVAUX,
Sub-Inspector of Revenue and Police.

19th April 1882.

LEEWARD ISLANDS.

ANTIGUA.

No. 12.

Governor SIR J. H. GLOVER, K.C.M.G., to the Right Hon. the EARL OF KIMBERLEY.

Government House, Dominica,
August 10, 1882.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to forward to your Lordship the Colonial Secretary's report on the Blue Book of Antigua for the year 1881.

The Blue Book will be forwarded direct from Antigua.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN H. GLOVER.

The Right Hon.
The Earl of Kimberley,
&c. &c.

REPORT on the BLUE BOOK of ANTIGUA for the year 1881.

Revenue and Expenditure.

1. The following return, prepared in the office of the Auditor-General, exhibits the financial transactions of the Presidency for the year 1881 :—

RETURN of the REVENUE and EXPENDITURE of the Presidency of ANTIGUA for the year ended 31st December 1881.

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
No. 1. FIXED ESTABLISHMENTS :—		
Civil	4,292 3 1	
Judicial	3,120 4 11	
Ecclesiastical	1,982 4 10	
Police	3,562 17 10	
Gaol	855 12 0	
Medical	1,912 7 11	
		15,725 10 7
2. Pensions		732 19 4
4. Administration of justice.		69 18 0
6. Hospitals		5,190 5 5
7. Education		1,182 18 6
9. Police and gaol		1,184 3 1
10. Rents		357 0 0
11. Transport		148 19 9
13. Works and buildings.		1,686 9 3
14. Roads and bridges		4,184 14 7
15. Miscellaneous		1,844 19 11
16. Interest		3,181 5 1
17. Repayment of loans		1,420 3 10½
18. Military		1,379 15 11
19. Board of Health		743 9 2
20. Signal stations		163 6 4
21. Market		174 8 10
22. Registration		330 16 8
23. Telegraph subsidy		800 0 0
24. Drawback		124 4 4½
Arrears of 1880		400 0 0
		41,025 8 8
Island of Barbuda	292 5 2	
Escheated estates	23 6 4	
		315 11 6
Balance to credit, 31 December 1881.	7,738 11 9	
Balance in hands of Crown Agents.	471 14 3	
		8,210 6 0
	—	49,551 6 2

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Customs	26,635 17 9	
Excise	4,071 19 9	
Stamps	733 18 1	
		31,441 15 7
Licenses	1,853 5 6	
Fees of office	537 4 5½	
Post Office	457 12 7	
Fines and penalties	1,742 18 3	
Rents	563 6 5	
		5,154 7 2½
Ecclesiastical tax	1,734 19 7	
Water tax	609 16 8	
Rat tax	166 8 8½	
		2,511 4 11½
Miscellaneous	527 18 9	
Water rate	337 6 7	
Receipt from presidencies for keep of lunatics and prisoners.	1,007 1 7	
		1,872 6 11
		40,979 14 8
Island of Barbuda	566 17 3	
Escheated estates	38 5 9	
		605 3 0
		41,584 17 8
Balance from 1880		7,966 8 6
	—	49,551 6 2

2. There was an increase of revenue over that of 1880 under the following heads :—

	£	s.	d.
Stamps	16	9	5
Licenses	27	14	6
Post Office	106	6	0
Rents	17	2	3
Ecclesiastical tax	157	1	6½
Water tax	26	15	6
Island of Barbuda	375	3	0
Receipts from other Presidencies for the keep of prisoners and lunatics	133	3	8
An increased tax on land was levied during the year 1881, under the provisions of an Act (No. 19 of 1880) "to encourage the destroying of rats," which gave an income of	166	8	8½

3. The decrease of revenue as compared with that of 1880, was under the following heads :—

	£	s.	d.
Customs	1,374	2	4½
Excise	952	18	0
Fees of office	19	8	2½
Fines and penalties	154	13	2
Miscellaneous	5	0	4½
Water rate	33	1	1
Escheated estates	19	1	3

4. The following is a statement of the assets and liabilities o. the Presidency on the 31st of December 1881 :—

STATEMENT of the ASSETS and LIABILITIES of the Presidency of ANTIGUA on the 31st December 1881.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
To holders of Local Loan, 1869-75.	10,100	0	0			
Savings Bank Loan	5,171	0	0			
Water Works Loan debentures.	32,500	0	0			
Immigration Current Account.	860	15	8			
				57,431	15	8
Police Reward Fund	240	1	3			
Island of Barbuda	839	1	6			
Escheated estates	14	0	11½			
Ecclesiastical tax	48	18	11½			
				1,142	2	8
				58,573	18	4

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
By Water Works Sinking Fund.	25,623	3	10			
Unrepresented estates	1	11	1			
Presidencies	298	10	1			
				25,923	5	1
Cash in bank on deposit.	7,000	0	0			
Cash current account	738	11	9			
Cash in hands of Crown Agents.	471	14	3			
				8,210	6	0
				34,133	11	0
Excess of liabilities				24,440	7	4
				58,573	18	4

LEEWARD ISLANDS.

Roads.

5. 4,184*l.* 14*s.* 7*d.* was expended in maintaining roads and bridges, being an excess of 122*l.* 4*s.* 8*d.* over that of the previous year for the same service.

Works and Buildings.

6. The expenditure on works and buildings was 1,686*l.* 9*s.* 3*d.* against 3,231*l.* 15*s.* 7*d.* in the previous year.

Military Expenditure.

7. The cost of supporting the Militia force was 1,379*l.* 15*s.* 11*d.*
The Cavalry corps consisted of six officers and 40 non-commissioned officers and men.
The Artillery force exists only on paper.

Legislation.

8. The General Legislative Council of the Leeward Islands commenced its session on the 3rd of October. The session lasted 15 days. Sixteen laws were enacted, namely :—

No. 1.—" An Act to amend the Supreme Court Act."
Among other amendments made to the Supreme Court Act is the following:—The power of admitting English, Scotch, and Irish barristers to practise at the bar of the Leeward Islands is vested in the full Court, instead of in the Chief Justice, as provided by the Supreme Court Act, 1881.

No. 2.—" An Act to provide for the service of the Colony of " the Leeward Islands for the year 1882."

No. 3.—" An Act to make further provision for the service of " the Colony of the Leeward Islands for the year 1881."

No. 4.—" An Act to amend an Act entitled ' An Act to " ' reduce the cost of the Civil Establishment of the Leeward " ' Islands,' No. 2 of 1877."
This Act repeals the provisions of the Act of 1877, authorising Her Majesty to combine the offices of Colonial Secretary and Auditor-General, in the event of either of the appointments becoming vacant.

No. 5.—" An Act to amend the law relating to the punishment " of juvenile offenders convicted before the superior courts of " this Colony."
By this law a judge of the Supreme Court may sentence a juvenile male prisoner, convicted of an offence for which the punishment of whipping in addition to imprisonment is prescribed by the Act, to whipping alone. Power is also given to the judge, in certain cases, to order whipping, either in substitution for or in addition to any other punishment.

No. 6.—"An Act to amend the 'Cruelty to Animals Act, 1880.'"

This Act relates to the recovery of penalties under the original Act.

No. 7.—"An Act to amend the Pensions Act, 1878."

By this Act it is provided that, unless otherwise ordered by Her Majesty, a public officer not giving his whole time to the public service shall not be entitled to a pension, and also that the Secretary of State may require any public officer who shall have attained upwards of 60 years of age to retire.

No. 8.—"An Act to amend the Law of Evidence with respect to Bankers' Books."

This adopts the English law on the subject.

No. 9.—"An Act to abolish minimum punishments wherever "imposed by any Act of the Leeward Islands or any Presidency "thereof."

This Act is sufficiently explained by the title.

No. 10.—"An Act to amend the 'Coroners Act, 1880.'"

This Act amends the Coroners Act of 1880, and authorises the holding of an inquest on Sunday.

No. 11.—"An Act to amend the 'Magistrates Act, 1877.'"

The object of this law is to abolish one of the magisterial districts in Dominica.

No. 12.—"An Act to amend the 'Commissions of Inquiry Act, 1880.'"

By this law it is provided that statements of witnesses before Commissions of Inquiry shall not be admissible in any proceedings, civil or criminal, except on indictment for perjury.

No. 13.—"An Act to authorise the issuing of proclamations "offering rewards for the apprehension of persons charged with "high treason or felony."

This Act is explained by its title.

No. 14.—"An Act to consolidate and amend the laws of the "various presidencies relating to the registration of deeds and "the custody of records."

This Act amends and makes the law relating to the registration of deeds uniform throughout the Colony.

No. 15.—"An Act to amend and consolidate the laws relating "to appeals from the Court of Summary Jurisdiction and from "the Magistrate's Court."

No. 16.—"An Act to consolidate and amend the Bastardy Laws."

These Acts are fully explained by their titles.

9. The Legislature of Antigua enacted five laws in 1881, four of which related to financial matters.

Civil Establishment.

10. Sir George Berkeley, K.C.M.G., left the Colony on the 26th of June, and the administration of the Government devolved

LEEWARD ISLANDS.

upon me, as Lieutenant-Governor of the Colony, until the arrival of Governor Sir John H. Glover, G.C.M.G., on the 4th of August.

On the 26th of October I went to England on leave of absence. On the 6th of November Governor Sir John Glover left the Colony on short leave of absence, and Mr. Burford-Hancock was appointed Administrator of the Leeward Islands.

During the year several temporary changes took place in the official department. Mr. Burns, the Auditor-General, acted as Colonial Secretary during my absence, the Treasurer, Mr. Wylde, acting as Auditor-General, and Mr. James Burns, the landing surveyor, acting as treasurer.

Mr. Goldney was appointed to act as Chief Justice of the Leeward Islands during the absence of Mr. Burford-Hancock, and Mr. Henry S. Berkeley acted for him as Attorney-General.

Population.

11. A census of the population was taken on the 3rd of April 1881.

The returns show that there was a decrease in the population of 193 since the taking of the census of 1871. The population is returned at 34,964 against 35,157 shown by the census of 1871. A copy of the Registrar-General's report is appended.

12. A copy of the report of the Acting Registrar-General on the vital statistics of the past year, which is also appended, shows that there were 1,585 births and 1,530 deaths during the year giving a natural increase to the population of 55.

13. There has been a marked diminution in the number of still-births, the rate having decreased from 11 and 9·9 per cent. in the two previous years to 7 in 1881. The birth rate is also larger than that registered in the five previous years. I concur with the Acting Registrar-General in thinking that these results are mainly due to the appointment of midwives in the several districts of the island.

14. The death rate is the highest since 1877, being at the rate of 44·5 per 1,000. In 1880 it was at the rate of 32·9 per 1,000. I fear that, until effective measures are taken for improving the sanitary condition of the towns and villages, there will be no prospect of checking the frightful rate of mortality which has prevailed in Antigua for many years past.

Savings Bank.

15. The transactions of the savings bank in 1881 are shown in the subjoined return :—

ABSTRACT of TRANSACTIONS for the Year 1881.

	Received from			Paid to		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Balance of cash from 1880 - - -	438	8	0	—		
Crown Agents for investment - - -	309	10	0	316	15	4
Investment in England - - - -	—			960	11	0
Investment in Montserrat debentures - -	—			300	0	0
Deposits in Colonial Bank - - -	4,500	0	0	3,000	0	0
Interest - - - - - -	774	11	10	653	11	1
Expenses - - - - - -	0	2	0	122	7	9
Treasury of Antigua Account Loan - -	90	15	1	—		
Depositors - - - - -	11,041	10	5	11,777	5	6
Balance of cash to 1882 - - - -	—			24	6	8
	17,154	17	4	17,154	17	4

16. The following is a copy of the balance sheet of the institution made up to the 31st of December last:—

St. John's Savings Bank.

BALANCE SHEET on the 31st of December 1881.

Dr.		Cr.		
		£	s.	d.
	213 depositors of less than 1*l.* - - -	67	12	6
	248 „ 1*l.* and less than 5*l.* - -	632	14	2
	120 „ 5*l.* „ 10*l.* - -	851	15	0
	105 „ 10*l.* „ 20*l.* - -	1,466	19	4
	40 „ 20*l.* „ 30*l.* - -	962	17	7
	29 „ 30*l.* „ 40*l.* - -	997	10	2
	22 „ 40*l.* „ 50*l.* - -	894	2	5
	24 „ 50*l.* „ 60*l.* - -	1,149	9	4
	15 „ 60*l.* „ 70*l.* - -	976	12	4
	10 „ 70*l.* „ 80*l.* - -	752	4	2
	6 „ 80*l.* „ 90*l.* - -	508	19	6
	7 „ 90*l.* „ 100*l.* - -	647	16	0
	47 „ 100*l.* and upwards - -	12,456	16	11
	886	22,455	9	5
	Interest account -	0	17	0
	Drs.			
9,438 10 0	Investments in England.			
3,000 0 0	Montserrat debentures.			
8,800 0 0	Antigua Treasury.			
1,100 0 0	Deposits at interest (Colonial Bank).			
93 9 9	Crown Agents for investment.			
24 6 8	Cash.			
22,456 6 5		22,456	6	5

LEEWARD ISLANDS.

Immigration and Emigration.

17. Sixty-one male and 18 female immigrants arrived from Barbados as agricultural labourers at a cost of 326*l.* 1*s.* 6*d.*

There was no emigration.

The expected party of Chinese immigrants had not arrived up to the close of the year.

Education.

18. The annual report of the Inspector of Schools is annexed. It is satisfactory to observe that the elementary system of education, introduced in 1874, continues to work satisfactorily.

19. The Antigua grant for elementary education is 1,100*l.* per annum, and a further sum of 200*l.* is given in aid of the Mico Training School.

Imports and Exports.

20. The total value of imports was 151,883*l.* 3*s.* 1*d.*, namely:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
United Kingdom - - -	74,916	8	10
United States - - -	52,933	0	1
British colonies - - -	22,633	19	7
Other places - - -	1,399	14	7

21. The value of imports in the previous year was 160,767*l.*

22. The total value of exports was 178,581*l.* 15*s.* 11*d.*, namely:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
United Kingdom - - -	63,301	0	3
United States - - -	98,882	13	5
British Colonies - - -	15,653	10	0
Other places - - -	744	12	3

Showing a falling off of 84,968*l.* 4*s.* 1*d.* as compared with the exports of 1880.

This was owing to the short crop shipped in 1881, which was 10,193 hogsheads against 14,824 hogsheads exported in the previous year.

23. Of the total shipments of sugar 5,895 hogsheads were sent to the United States of America.

24. The increase in the trade between this island and the United States of America during the last five years is shown in the following return:—

Year.	Value of Imports from U.S.A.			Value of Exports to U.S.A.		
	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*
1877	60,235	13	5	44,445	8	0
1878	61,872	6	4	57,272	2	0
1879	46,685	1	6	83,343	16	1
1880	51,223	12	10	126,635	9	5
1881	52,933	0	1	98,882	13	5

Shipping.

25. The following is a comparative return of shipping for the years 1879, 1880, and 1881 :—

Year.		Entered.		Cleared.	
		No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
1879	Sailing vessels -	359	32,784	357	32,035
	Steamers - -	65	62,243	65	62,243
1880	Sailing vessels -	386	28,184	388	27,697
	Steamers - -	101	100,071	101	100,071
1881	Sailing vessels -	377	21,542	379	22,558
	Steamers - -	102	102,932	102	102,932

Crime.

26. The number of commitments to gaol during the year was 895 against 582 in 1880, showing an increase of 313.

The total number of summary convictions was 3,918 against 4,069 in 1880.

EDWIN BAYNES,
President.

REPORT of the ACTING REGISTRAR-GENERAL on the VITAL STATISTICS of ANTIGUA for the Year 1881.

SIR, St. John's, Antigua, May 1, 1882.

I HAVE the honour to submit the following report on the vital statistics of this Island for the year 1881.

2. There were 1,585 births registered during the year; of these 851 were males and 734 females; 1,372 were black, 172 coloured, and 41 white; 112 were still-born.

3. The following return shows that while in 1881 the births exceeded in number that of any of the past five years there was a marked decrease in the number of still-births.

In 1877 the births were 1,399, of which 139, or 9·9 per cent. were still-births.
1878 „ „ 1,428 „ 184 „ 12·8 „ „
1879 „ „ 1,298 „ 143 „ 11· „ „
1880 „ „ 1,500 „ 149 „ 9·9 „ „
1881 „ „ 1,585 „ 112 „ 7· „ „

4. Of the total births, 589 males and 522 females were illegitimates, and 262 males and 212 females were legitimate, making a total of 1,111 illegitimate against 474 legitimate, the illegitimate

LEEWARD ISLANDS.

being 71·3 per cent. of the whole. The percentage of illegitimate births during the last five years is as follows:—

1877 - - - -	70·5
1878 - - - -	68·4
1879 - - - -	72·
1880 - - - -	67·8
1881 - - - -	71·3

5. The birth rate of the year 1881 was 46·1 per 1,000, which compares favourably with the birth rate of previous years.

1877 - - - -	40·7
1878 - - - -	41·5
1879 - - - -	37·7
1880 - - - -	43·6
1881 - - - -	46·1

6. The birth-rate of each of the parishes was as follows:—

St. John - - - -	45·3
St. George - - -	51·1
St. Philip - - -	44·6
St. Mary - - -	48·4
St. Peter - - - -	44·7
St. Paul - - -	45·3

If however the 48 births which occurred in the Holberton Hospital had been registered in the parishes to which they really belonged, the birth-rate of St. John's in the foregoing statement would be slightly reduced, and that of the other parishes correspondingly increased.

7. The number of deaths registered during the year was 1,530, of which 742 were males and 788 females; 1,285 were black, 188 coloured, and 57 white. This number also includes 112 still-born.

8. The following is a comparison of the number of deaths, and the death rate per 1,000 in each of the last five years:—

1877 - -	1,628	or 47·4	per 1,000
1878 - -	1,350	„ 39·3	„
1879 - -	1,165	„ 33·9	„
1880 - -	1,132	„ 32·9	„
1881 - -	1,530	„ 44·5	„

9. The death rate of each of the parishes was as follows:—

St. John - -	50·6
St. George - -	41·01
St. Philip - -	37·1
St. Mary - -	35·9
St. Peter - -	47·7
St. Paul - -	35·5

As in the case of the births the deaths in the public institutions are all registered as belonging to St. John's; these amounted to 215, viz., hospital and poor house 197, lunatic asylum 12, Leper hospital 4, and gaol 2, and as these come from all parts of the Island, the death rate of the parishes is only set to revision by transferring these figures to the parishes in which, but for removal to the institutions in question, the deaths would have taken place.

10. The number of deaths is largely in excess of that of the previous year.

11. The total increase in the population by excess of births over deaths was 55. Deducting the deaths in the Holberton Hospital, Gaol, Lunatic and Leper Asylum, and also deducting the births at the Holberton Hospital, we find that the increase of the population by excess of births over deaths to be as follows:—

St. John's	-	73·0
St. Philip's	-	23·0
St. George's	-	36·0
St. Mary's	-	50·0
St. Paul's	-	39·0

and in St. Peter's there was a decrease by excess of deaths over births of 11. These figures would show the increase of the population in the different parishes to be in the following order:—

1. St. John.
2. St. Mary.
3. St. Paul.
4. St. George.
5. St. Philip.

12. There were 117 more male children than female born during the year, and 46 more females than males died during that period.

13. 197 deaths occurred at the hospital and poor house, 2 at the gaol, 12 at the lunatic asylum, and 4 at the leper asylum.

14. The following are the diseases in order from which a greater number of deaths occurred in 1881 than in the preceding year.

1. Zymotic, epidemic, endemic, contagious, or eruptive diseases.
   Increase - - - - 109
2. Diseases of the lungs and other organs of respiration, other than tubercular disease.
   Increase - - - - 97
3. Atrophy.
   Increase - - - - 61

LEEWARD ISLANDS.

4. Diseases of the heart and other blood vessels.
   Increase - - - - 41
5. Rheumatism, diseases of the bones, joints, &c.
   Increase - - - - 38
6. Premature birth.
   Increase - - - - 38
7. Age.
   Increase - - - - 16
8. Dropsy, cancer, and other diseases of variable seat.
   Increase - - - - 15
9. Child-birth, diseases of the womb, &c.
   Increase - - - - 9
10. Violence, privation, poison, intemperance, &c.
   Increase - - - - 8
11. Diseases of the skin, cellular tissue, &c.
   Increase - - - - 7
12. Diseases of the brain, spinal marrow, nerves and senses.
   Increase - - - - 5
13. Diseases of the stomach, liver, and other organs of digestion.
   Increase - - - - 5

15. The following in order are the diseases from which a smaller number of deaths were registered in 1881 than in the year previous.

1. Still-born.
   Decrease - - - - 37
2. Tubercular diseases, marasmas, consumption, &c.
   Decrease - - - - 8
3. Causes not specified.
   Decrease - - - - 2
4. Diseases of the kidneys.
   Decrease - - - - 2
5. Sudden.
   Decrease - - - - 1

16. During the months of April, May, June, July, and August, an epidemic of whooping cough raged throughout the Island; it first made its appearance in St. John's in the latter part of February, a case (the first I believe) having come under my notice at that time, after which it gradually spread to all parts of the Island. Almost simultaneously with the outbreak in St. John's cases were discovered by the medical officer of St. Peter's in that parish. This epidemic proved to be one of the most extensive known for some time past, but I am glad to be able to state that only a comparatively small number of deaths were registered from this cause. A return that has been furnished me by Dr. Edwards, the senior medical officer, shows that at the Government dispensary alone, in the city of St. John, nearly 600 cases were treated.

17. A large number of deaths were registered from zymotic diseases, and I am only surprised that the number of deaths from this cause was not larger, for the following reason: In every village throughout the Island, as one rides or walks through, there is everywhere to be seen in the immediate vicinity of each cottage a profusion of vegetation denser and more rank than is to be found even away from the village itself, the cause being simply this: Each or almost each villager keeps a horse, cow, pig, or ass, and the refuse from these animals is allowed to accumulate, and must in the natural order of events be dispersed around the dwelling; this results, as it cannot fail to do, especially in wet weather, in a low typhoid fever, which finds a ready victim in the negro, who though of excellent physique has (in consequence probably of the small amount of animal food he consumes) but little stamina, and when attacked by illness in his ill-drained, ill-ventilated hut, speedily succumbs to diseases which under more favourable conditions could, in most cases, be readily cured. The remedy for this state of things is to be found in the establishment and enforcement of a proper system of sanitary regulations throughout the Island in the different villages, and with this view I would respectfully suggest that a village inspector be appointed, whose duty it would be to see that a certain area around each dwelling be kept clean and free from refuse of any kind, also that there should be two or three (according to the size of the village) suitable spots set apart where the refuse could be conveniently and without detriment to the public health thrown. Stringent provision is also urgently required for seeing that all drains and watercourses, which cannot but be affected by the state of the villages as above referred to, be kept open and from time to time, say twice or thrice a year as occasion may require, these drains should be weeded, cleaned, and otherwise repaired.

18. The largest per-centage of deaths was of children under five years of age, the following table showing a considerable increase as compared with previous years:—

	Under 1 year.	Between 1 and 5.
1877	601	—
1878	433	179
1879	527	85
1880	429	108
1881	661	216

A consideration of these figures shows that the subject of infant mortality is one of immense importance and well deserves the attention which in recent years it has received from the Government and which I think commands immediate legislation. The per-centage of deaths under one year of age is most appalling, being nearly 50 per cent. and of deaths under five years of age over 50 per cent. of the total number of deaths. To what cause are we to attribute this high rate of mortality? Can we ascribe it to any state of the atmosphere engendering infantile diseases

LEEWARD ISLANDS.

or epidemics? I think not! A great deal has been written about the immorality of the lower orders being the main and chief cause, and I am of opinion that this, in a great measure, tends to bring about this deplorable state of affairs, but we must seek further for what in my opinion is in reality the foundation of this high rate of mortality, and that is, the innate want of natural affection exhibited by the lower orders, and in making this statement, I should like to have it borne in mind that out of the aggregate number of 867 deaths which were registered under five years of age, no less than 661 occurred under one year, and only 201 between the ages of one and five years. If illegitimacy was the principal cause of the extensive infantile mortality, would we not find a greater number of deaths occurring between the ages of one and five, the age at which mothers would be required in the natural order of events to expend money in the purchase of articles of food for their offspring. I must here allude also to the fact, well known as I am afraid it is, of the large number of cases of abortion and miscarriage which annually occur in every part of this Island.

19. During the last year the "Midwives" Act has come into operation, the result of which, I am inclined to think, has been beneficial, notably in the reduction, as shown in paragraph 3, of the number of still-born children. The usefulness of this Act would be greatly enhanced were a better system than now exists of educating the village midwives, introduced. The soi-disant midwife of a village as she now exists, with one or two exceptions, is totally unfit for the duties, as they should be performed, of the office she holds, but at the same time she is the very best that can be procured under the existing circumstances.

The annexed Table No. 4 shows that no less than 802 deaths were registered in the parish of St. John (including the city) giving a per-centage of 50 · 6 as the death-rate. This at first sight to a casual observer would make it appear that the death-rate of St. John's parish is most unusually high, but it must be borne in mind that of these 802 cases 197 occurred at the hospital and poor-house, which number I am of opinion should be deducted in the per-centage death-rate of the parish, as patients are sent in almost daily from all parts of the Island to these institutions either in a moribund condition or so crippled and ill that they soon die.

The lowest death-rate occurred in St. Paul's parish at 35 · 4 per cent., although the per-centage of illegitimate children in that parish is not the lowest, being 67 · 07.

The following tables are annexed to this report:—

No. 1. General abstract of births for year ended 31st December 1881.

No. 2. Showing the number of deaths from each cause for 1877, 1878, 1879, 1880, 1881.

No. 3. Showing the total number of deaths in each parish, and classification of age, sex, and complexion.

No. 4. Abstract of births and deaths registered in the year ended 31st December 1881.

I am, &c.

(Signed) ARTHUR E. EDWARDS,
M.R.C.S., England,
Acting Registrar-General.

TABLE No. 1.

GENERAL ABSTRACT of BIRTHS for Year ended 31st December 1881.

PARISHES.	Number of Births.	Legitimate.		Illegitimate.		Complexion.		
		M.	F.	M.	F.	Black.	White.	Coloured.
St. John's - -	718	113	99	265	241	574	29	115
St. George's -	186	28	29	59	70	178	3	5
St. Philip's - -	137	27	17	53	40	117	4	16
St. Mary's - -	194	38	29	71	56	182	1	11
St. Peter's - -	162	18	14	68	62	150	3	9
St. Paul's - -	188	38	24	73	53	171	1	16
Totals -	1,585	262	212	589	522	1,372	41	172

TABLE No. 2.

SHOWING the NUMBER of DEATHS from Each Cause for 1877, 1878, 1879, 1880, 1881.

	—	1877.	1878.	1879.	1880.	1881.
1	Zymotic, Epidemic, Endemic, or Contagious or Eruptive Fevers.	196	224	158	115	223
2	Dropsy, Cancer, and other Diseases of uncertain or variable seat.	51	61	64	45	60
3	Tubercular Diseases, Consumption, Marasmus, &c.	116	73	101	111	103
4	Diseases of the Brain, Spinal Marrow, Nerves and Senses.	156	136	117	162	167
5	Diseases of the Heart and Blood Vessels.	63	81	50	58	99
6	Diseases of the Lungs and other Organs of Respiration other than Tubercular Diseases.	56	73	94	54	151
7	Diseases of the Stomach, Liver and other Organs of Digestion.	598	286	161	192	197
8	Diseases of the Kidneys - -	6	13	7	7	5
9	Child-birth, Diseases of the Womb, &c.	9	9	32	9	18
10	Rheumatism, Diseases of the Bones, Joints, &c.	9	5	23	5	43
11	Diseases of the Skin, Cellular Tissues, &c.	28	29	36	19	26
12	Malformations - - -	—	1	—	—	—
13	Premature Birth - - -	53	15	17	10	48
14	Atrophy - - - -	25	69	23	70	131
15	Age - - - -	92	65	111	91	107
16	Violence, Privation, Poison, Intemperance, &c.	18	5	2	5	13
17	Sudden - - - -	1	2	1	4	3
18	Still-born - - - -	139	184	143	149	112
19	Causes not specified - -	12	19	35	26	24
	Total -	1,628	1,350	1,165	1,132	1,530

TABLE No. 3.

Showing the TOTAL NUMBER of DEATHS in each Parish and Classification of AGE, SEX, and COMPLEXION.

PARISHES.	Total Number of Deaths.	Above 14 years.		Under 14 years.		Above 5 but under 14.		Over 1 but under 5.		Under 1 year.		Places at which Death occurred.			Complexion.		
		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	Town.	Village.	Estate.	Black.	White.	Coloured.
St. John's - -	802	164	205	228	205	16	20	53	45	159	140	438	120	244	629	39	134
St. George's - -	150	17	28	56	49	3	—	8	9	45	40	—	83	67	142	4	4
St. Philip's - -	114	21	19	33	41	3	1	10	9	20	31	5	76	33	100	4	10
St. Mary's - -	144	14	20	51	59	1	2	11	17	39	40	2	60	82	134	1	9
St. Peter's - -	173	24	30	58	61	2	6	15	16	39	41	57	44	72	158	4	11
St. Paul's - -	147	18	31	58	40	5	3	14	9	41	26	38	77	32	122	5	20
Total - -	1,530	258	333	484	455	30	32	111	105	343	318	340	460	730	1,285	57	188

TABLE No. 4.

ABSTRACT of BIRTHS and DEATHS registered in the Year ended 31st December 1881.

PARISHES.	Population by Census of 1881.	Total Number of Births in year 1881.	Birth-rate per 1,000 Persons living.	Total Number of Deaths in year 1881.	Death-rate per 1,000 Persons.	Number of Illegitimate Children in 100 Births.	Number of Deaths under 1 year in 100 Births.	Number of Deaths under 1 year in 100 Deaths.	REMARKS.
St. John - - -	15,847	†718	45·3	*802	50·6	70·04	41·6	37·1	*Number of deaths in St. John's includes— 2 from gaol. 197 from P. H. and hospital. 12 from lunatic asylum. 4 and leper hospital. †Number of births in St. John's includes 48· from hospital.
St. George - -	3,635	186	51·1	150	41·01	69·3	45·6	63·3	
St. Philip - -	3,065	137	44·6	114	37·1	67·8	37·2	44·7	
St. Mary - -	4,001	194	48·4	144	35·9	65·4	40·7	54·8	
St. Peter - -	3,623	162	44·7	173	47·7	80·2	49·3	46·2	
St. Paul - - -	4,150	188	45·3	147	35·4	67·07	35·6	45·5	
Totals - -	34,321	1,585	46·1	1,530	44·5	71 3	41·7	43·2	

LEEWARD ISLANDS.

REPORT of the INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF SCHOOLS in the LEEWARD ISLANDS for 1881.

SIR, Antigua, December, 1881.

I HAVE the honour to forward you for the information of His Excellency the Governor my report for the year 1881 on the elementary schools of the Leeward Islands, which are aided or entirely supported by the Government. This constitutes the seventh annual report since the coming into operation of the Education Act of 1874.

2. There are added to this report in Appendix A.,* duplicates of the statements of accounts for the year 1881 of schools in the Leeward Islands in the receipt of Government aid as the result of Examination, which statements of accounts have been already transmitted to the Presidents of the several Islands comprising this Colony; in Appendix B.,* the names of schools which have been struck off the Government list, or to which grants in aid have been refused, and the reason for such refusal; and in Appendix C.,* the names of students in the Mico Training Institution, St. John's, Antigua, arranged in order of merit, as the result of the Government Examination held in June last, in accordance with the provisions of the Mico Act of 1878.

3. I have again the pleasure to report that during the past year steady progress has been made in Elementary Education throughout the Colony.

4. For various reasons, which I deem unnecessary to mention here, the daily average attendance in five schools in Nevis has slightly decreased, the total decrease, however, amounting to only 41; and in the Virgin Islands no account has been taken of the Wesleyan school at Jost Van Dyke, as no returns have been sent in, consequently the daily average attendance in these two Presidencies of Nevis and the Virgin Islands for 1881 is a little less than it was in the preceding year.

5. Except in the two above-mentioned Presidencies the number of scholars in daily average attendance has increased; and on the whole satisfactory progress has been made in their attainments in every Presidency of the Colony.

6. This may be seen from the following tabulated statements, which I have carefully compiled.

TABLE I.

Name of Presidency.	1875.		1880.		1881.	
	No. of Schools.	Daily average Attendance.	No. of Schools.	Daily average Attendance.	No. of Schools.	Daily average Attendance.
Antigua - -	45	1,830	38	2,317	39	2,394
St. Kitts - -	26	1,327	25	1,811	25	1,811
Dominica - -	23	600	24	1,227	23	1,248
Montserrat - -	12	448	11	699	11	736
Nevis - -	9	406	10	724	10	683
The Virgin Islands	10	324	11	355	10	302
Totals -	125	4,935	119	7,133	118	7,174

* Not printed.

LEEWARD ISLANDS.

7. The above Table shows the number of schools on the Government list in each Presidency of the Colony, and the daily average attendance in such schools for the year 1881, and for the preceding year 1880, and for the year 1875, which was the first year after the introduction of the present Education Act.

8. From this comparison we may gather that:

A. The general daily average attendance throughout the Colony has steadily increased from 4,935 children attending 125 schools in 1875, to 7,174 children attending 118 schools in 1881, or an increase of over 45 per cent.

B. The general daily average attendance for 1881 is slightly in excess of that for the preceding year, although Mount Wallis Wesleyan School in Dominica has been closed by the manager, and no returns have been received from Jost Van Dyke Wesleyan School in the Virgin Islands.

C. The greatest increase has taken place in Dominica, Nevis, and Montserrat, amounting in Dominica to 108 per cent., in Nevis to over 68 per cent., and in Montserrat to over 56 per cent.

D. No reference is here made to the number of names of scholars in the books, as the daily average attendance is the best criterion with regard to the increase or decrease of the number of children attending school.

9. I subjoin a table of the schools of the Colony in general, classified according to the Government Standard.

TABLE II.

Year.	1st Class.	2nd Class.	3rd Class.	Failed.	Total.
1875	3	8	33	81	125
1876	5	12	45	42	104
1877	7	19	48	37	111
1878	9	24	53	32	118
1879	13	25	52	29	119
1880	15	27	49	28	119
1881	13	28	47	30	118

10. As Table I. shows that there has been a general and satisfactory increase in the number of scholars in daily average attendance, so it may be seen from Table II. that the schools throughout the Colony have made steady and continued progress in their attainments.

11. Thus in 1875, out of 125 schools aided or supported by the Government, only 44 came up to the required standard, or about 35 per cent.; but in 1881, out of 118 schools on the Government list, 88 obtained a class, or over 74 per cent.

12. As a natural consequence, the number of failed schools has gradually decreased from 81 in 1875 to 30 in 1880.

13. No less than 18 out of the 30 schools which failed to come up to the Government requirements are in the Presidencies of Dominica and the Virgin Islands.

LEEWARD ISLANDS.

14. In the latter Presidency the teachers are miserably paid. The average Government Grant in aid payable to each school for the whole year does not amount to 8*l.*

15. Yet the failed schools, both of Dominica and the Virgin Islands, and also of the other Presidencies, which I have recommended for "Exceptional Aid," each on its own individual merits, are well worthy of the small grants paid towards their support by the Government.

16. For they are well attended, they are doing an useful work, they have slightly improved lately, in almost every case they are the only schools in the district, and if the small grant be withheld and the managers close the schools forthwith, as I fear they will, then the little flickering light of these schools will be extinguished, and the children living in the neighbourhood will be left to grow up in utter darkness and ignorance.

I have, &c.

M. J. DRINKWATER,
Inspector-General of Schools for the Leeward Islands.

The Hon. P. Burns, Esq.,
Acting Colonial
Secretary.

NEVIS.

NEVIS.

No. 13.

Governor SIR J. H. Glover, K.C.M.G., to the Right Hon. the EARL OF KIMBERLEY.

Government House, Antigua,
April 26, 1882.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship the Blue Book of Nevis for the year 1881, together with a report thereon from President Churchill.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN H. GLOVER.
Governor.

The Right Hon.
The Earl of Kimberley,
&c. &c.

REPORT on the NEVIS BLUE BOOK for 1881.

Revenue and Expenditure.

Revenue.

The revenue of the year 1881 amounted to 7,702*l.* and that of 1880 to 8,390*l.*, exhibiting a decrease for the past year of 688*l.*

This decrease is attributable, chiefly, to the lowering of the excise duty, which, as was anticipated, after the reduction of the

rate to 1*s.* per gallon returned only half the former amount to the Treasury, or 434*l.* less than in the previous year, viz., for 1881 491*l.* in place of 925*l.* the sum collected in 1880.

Receipts from import duties also fell off slightly, being 296*l.* less in amount, or 4,467*l.* in 1881 as against 4,763*l.* in 1880.

Expenditure.

The total expenditure of the year amounted to 8,500*l.*, of which about 1,221*l.* is in excess of the expenditure of ordinary years caused both by the addition of some new charges, and by the temporarily increased expenditure upon public works and roads.

	£
Of new charges the "Census" cost -	144
Destruction of rats an excess over vote of -	100
Pension to Dr. Burke - - -	110
Increased Federal contribution - -	175

In addition to the usual expense of repairs, viz., for buildings about 100*l.* and for roads about 600*l.*, there were also special votes granted and expended for extra repairs, raising the ordinary expenditure by about 235*l.* under each head.

A slight decrease is shown in the expenditure upon "Fixed Establishment" under the head of police, gaol, and ecclesiastical.

Legislation, Laws, Proclamations, &c.

There were two Ordinances passed during the year:—

No. 1 of 1881. The Appropriation Ordinance.

No. 2 of 1881. "An Ordinance to repeal Act No. 14 of 1872, "entitled 'An Act to establish a Savings' Bank,' and to make "other provisions."

The object of this Ordinance was to improve the law regulating the conduct of the Government Savings Bank, and to assimilate the method of management to that used in the other Presidencies.

Civil Establishment.

Mr. Salmon arrived in the Colony and administered the Government from 19th January to 25th April, when he returned to England on sick leave.

The following appointments to act as President were made during the remainder of the year:—

Mr. W. D. Auchinleck, 25th April.
Mr. P. Burns, 19th September.
Mr. J. S. Churchill, 23rd October.

The Registrar and Marshall, Mr. J. Thibon, was appointed on 26th October to act as Registrar at St. Kitts, combining both offices.

The staff of the Treasury Department was permanently reduced by the removal of a landing waiter, Mr. Bell, to Antigua.

NEVIS.

Pensions.

A pension of 110*l.* was granted to Dr. Burke, one of the medical officers, upon his retirement, and became payable on the 1st January 1881.

Population and Vital Statistics.

The census was taken on the 3rd April, and the result showed the total numbers of the population to be 11,864, of which 5,436 were males and 6,428 females.

The numbers, according to the census of 1871, were 11,703, thus during the intervening decennial period there has been no increase of the native Creole population, the actual increase in numbers of 161 being more than accounted for by the presence in the Island of 196 Indian immigrants, who were not included in the census of 1871.

The total of births during the 10 years from 1871 to 1880 inclusive was 6,099,and of deaths during the same period 3,930, and the excess of births over deaths 2,169.

That the total numbers should nevertheless have remained stationary during the same period is attributed by the Registrar-General in his report on the census to the emigration which constantly draws away a portion of the natives to Trinidad and Bolivia.

The number of the white Creoles has very much declined and although a good number of managers and overseers have arrived from Barbados to take charge of Nevis estates, the whole number of whites at the date of the census was only 209, the blacks numbering 9,471 persons, and those of mixed race 2,288, Indian 196.

Almost all are of the Protestant faith, the Wesleyans numbering about 3,000 more than those of the Anglican denomination.

The statistics of marriage when compared with the birth rate show an unfavourable condition of morality, almost two thirds of the adult population being single persons.

The births registered during the year numbered 495 and 34 still-births.

The deaths numbered 376, of which 236 were infants under five years, and 140 of persons of the age of five years and upwards.

There was an excess of births over deaths of 119 and the death rate per thousand was 31·69.

Imports and Exports.

A slight increase in the total value of both imports and exports occurred during the year as shown in the following table:—

	1881.	1880.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Imports - - - -	32,788 15 3½	30,546 5 0
Exports - - -	38,771 12 11	37,212 10 0

Imports from Great Britain were slightly diminished in quantity and value as compared with the preceding year, being 10,632*l.* 17*s.* in 1881 as against 11,117*l.* 18*s.* 1½*d.* in 1880.

An increase of 4,403*l.* is observable in the value of importations from the United States, mainly due, no doubt, to the facilities afforded to traffic with the continent by means of the new line of steamers which touch at St. Kitts.

Of the principal articles imported into Nevis, viz., food stuffs and estates' stores, the supply for the last year shows scarcely any variation from that recorded in 1880, except for a small increase in the importation of wheat flour, rice, and butter.

The following is a comparative table showing the quantities of certain articles imported during the years 1880 and 1881 respectively :—

Table showing the Quantity and Value of some of the principal imports for the Years 1880 *and* 1881.

——	1880.	1881.	Remarks.
Food Stuffs.			
Wheaten flour - Barrels	4,423	4,883	
Corn meal - „	3,671	3,524	
Fish, pickled - „	678	691	
„ dried - Quantities	1,075	984	
Rice - - Lbs.	104,851	119,767	
Pork - - „	60,000	46,940	
Bread - - Barrels	159	157	
Lard - Lbs.	15,292	15,705	
Butter - - „	16,721	17,456	
Estates' Stores.			
White pine, lumber Feet	181,527	226,579	
Pitch pine, „ „	53,930	10,661	
Pine shingles - -	215,625	278,000	
Cypress shingles - -	174,150	144,250	
Shooks - - Packs	4,563	610	Over supply in 1880.
Wood hoops - -	59,580	37,340	
Rope, cordage, &c. Value	223*l.* 14*s.* 6*d.*	278*l.* 3*s.* 3*d.*	
Paints and oils - „	110*l.* 12*s.* 4*d.*	113*l.* 5*s.* 7*d.*	
Supplies - - „	186*l.* 15*s.* 5*d.*	203*l.* 16*s.* 0*d.*	
Spirits.			
Brandy - - Gallons	421	430	
Gin - - „	1,058	1,399	
Whisky and rum - „	11½	24½	
Free Goods.			
Machinery and Manures - Value	988*l.* 2*s.* 3*d.*	1,172*l.* 0*s.* 1*d.*	

Exports.

The value of the total export of produce is only slightly increased beyond that of the previous year, but some difference in its destination is to be noticed, the quantity shipped to America being much greater than formerly.

NEVIS.

This arises from the fact that, at present, the planters who can dispose of their sugar to purchasers for the American market realise a gain of 2*l.* per hogshead over the price obtainable for sugar bought for the English market.

Criminal Statistics.

There were 951 summary convictions during the year, of which 35 were for prædial larceny, and 21 for other offences against property. Of the remainder 223 were for offences against the person, mostly of a trifling character, and 672 for other offences, chiefly for default in payment of taxes.

There were also six convictions in the superior courts, but there was no crime involving a heavier sentence than 12 months imprisonment.

There is no difference worthy of remark between the statistics of crime for the past year and those for 1880.

Agriculture.

There has been no change in the rate of wages paid to agricultural labourers, but the metairie system is coming more generally into use than was formerly the case.

Some long neglected estates have been again reclaimed and put under cultivation, and there is an increasing disposition apparent amongst the more wealthy planters of St. Kitts to invest capital in this Island.

The past year has been exceptionally favourable to the growth of the cane, and the crop now being gathered will surpass the average.

The rainfall was abundant and well distributed throughout the year, and may be estimated at 73·55 inches.

I have obtained this estimate by taking the average of the rainfall recorded upon five estates, in different situations, belonging to Sir Graham Briggs.

The lowest record was 68·19 inches upon an estate on the windward side, the highest 79·17 inches on an estate under the mountain to leeward.

The wet months of the year were May, June, August, September, and November, the largest monthly rainfall being that of August, viz., 14·16 inches.

The driest month was March with a rainfall of ·77 inches only.

(Signed) J. SPENCER CHURCHILL,
Acting President.

BERMUDA.

No. 14.

Governor Lieut.-Gen. T. L. GALLWEY, R.E., to the Right Hon. the EARL OF KIMBERLEY.

MY LORD, Bermuda, July 20, 1882.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith for your Lordships' information, two copies of the "Blue Book" of Bermuda for the year ending 31st December 1881.

The absence of the late Colonial Secretary from his duties, for a lengthened period, has caused considerable delay in the completion of the returns; while my very recent arrival in the colony precludes me from making any report thereon.

I have, &c.

(Signed) T. L. GALLWEY, Lieut.-Gen.
Governor and Commander-in-Chief.

The Right Hon.
The Earl of Kimberley,
&c. &c.

MALTA.

No. 15.

Governor Sir A. BORTON, G.C.M.G., K.C.B., to the Right Hon. the EARL OF KIMBERLEY.

MY LORD, Palace, Valletta, June 7, 1882.

I HAVE the honour to forward the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1881, to which I append, for your Lordship's information, a few remarks by Sir Victor Houlton, the Chief Secretary to Government.

I have, &c.

(Signed) A. BORTON,
Governor.

The Right Hon.
The Earl of Kimberley,
&c. &c.

Chief Secretary's Office,
May 19, 1882.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward to your Excellency the annual Blue Book for the year 1881, appending a few remarks for your Excellency's information.

Legislation.

The Ordinances promulgated during the year were:—

1. "To exempt the 'Conservatorio Vincenzo Bugyn' from "the obligation of selling certain property."

MALTA.

2. "To grant to the Crown and to parties who undertake "certain works, the power to enter on lands in certain "cases."
3. "For applying a sum not exceeding 26,743*l.* 9*s.* 0¾*d.* to the "service of the year 1880;"
4. "For applying a sum not exceeding 124,757*l.* 6*s.* 4*d.* to the "service of the year 1882."
5. "To exempt the Bishop and the Episcopal See of Gozo from "the obligation of selling certain property."
6. "To amend articles 47, 65 d, 65 Q, and 65 P, of the Police "Laws."
7. "To invest in the public funds of Great Britain any amount "of money existing in the Government Treasury "beyond ten thousand pounds, Sterling."
8. "To facilitate the execution of the duties of the Council of "Government."

Civil Establishments.

There were no important changes in the service during the year 1881, except the appointment of Captain G. L. Carr, R.N., as Superintendent of the Ports, instead of the late Captain H. S. de Robeck, R.N.; of Mr. Giovanni Pullicino, LL.D., as one of the Professors of Law, in the place of the late Mr. S. Dimech, who retired on a pension; of Magistrate Guglielmo Rapinit, LL.D., as a third Professor of Law, and Professor of Political Economy, in succession of the late Professor, Mr. G. Sanfilippo, and of Mr. W. M. Hunnybun, M.A., as Professor of English Literature, vice Mr. B. H. Dunbar, superannuated.

Pensions.

The total amount of pensions on the 31st December 1881 rose to 12,384*l.* 7*s.* 2*d.*, of which 1,980*l.* 3*s.* 2*d.*, the aggregate sum of 47 persons, were granted during 1881.

The total amount of pensions which ceased during 1881 was 2,095*l.* 19*s.* 7*d.*

Finance.

1. The gross revenue for 1881 was:—	£	*s.*	*d.*
Local - - - - -	173,808	10	1½
Crown Agents - - - -	12,149	4	1
	185,957	14	2½

2. The average revenue for the five years preceding 1881, was - - -	£ 182,409	*s.* 12	*d.* 6

Deducting from the gross revenue of 1881			
the products of land sales - -	328	2	11¾
And sale of Government property - -	415	14	4½
	743	17	4¼

Which are invested in Consols, the revenue of 1881 will be 185,213*l.* 16*s.* 10¼*d.*, or 2,804*l.* 4*s.* 4¼*d.* above the average revenue of the five preceding years, and 4,703*l.* 8*s.* 11¾*d.* less than that of 1880.

3. The principal differences in the receipts of 1881 as compared with those of 1880 are as follows:—

——	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Customs - - - - -	—	5,095 14 1
Quarantine dues - - - -	153 12 9	—
Land revenue - - - -	—	898 1 2
Rents (exclusive of lands) - - -	—	1,077 7 9
Fees of courts - - - -	—	277 11 10¾
Fees of office - - - - -	253 14 2	—
Sale of Government property - -	—	395 6 7¾
Reimbursements in aid of expenses - -	1,852 12 7¼	—
Interest - - - - -	1,150 6 9½	—
Special Receipts - - - -	—	274 4 2½

Decrease in 1881 as compared with 1880, 4,703*l.* 8*s.* 11¾*d.*

4. The provision for meeting the demands for 1881 was:—

Estimated Expenditure.

——	General Estimates.	Supplementary Estimates.	Total.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Establishments - -	74,673 15 3	4,503 0 8	79,176 15 11
Exclusive of establishments - - -	90,034 0 0	27,819 15 4	117,853 15 4
	164,707 15 3	32,322 16 0	197,030 11 3

Actual Expenditure.

——	General Estimates.	Supplementary Estimates.	Total.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Establishments - -	72,722 12 1	4,209 0 4	76,931 12 5
Exclusive of establishments - - -	92,874 4 6¾	18,233 19 5¼	111,108 4 0
	165,596 16 7¾	22,442 19 9¼	188,039 16 5

5. The amount expended under the head of charitable institutions during 1881 was 28,265*l.* 5*s.* 7*d.*, or nearly one sixth of the entire revenue of 1881.

Public Works.

The amount expended on public works during the year 1881 was 35,245*l.* 3*s.* 11½*d.*, of which 2,600*l.* were expended for the formation of two fountains at Sliema and a communication with

MALTA.

the aqueduct by means of cast iron pipes, and 435*l.* for erecting two condensers and an engine-room at Sliema.

Repairs were effected in public buildings, and buildings yielding rent, and the usual repairs and cleansing of the roads and streets were carried on.

Imports.

	£		£	
Value of cargoes imported and actually landed at this port -	691,325	against	840,425	in 1880
And value of cargoes which merely touched at this port and were re-exported in the same bottoms -	18,405,946	„	10,618,594	„
	19,097,271	„	11,459,019	„
viz. :—				
From the United Kingdom - - -	97,662	„	105,497	„
From the British Colonies - -	3,638,661	„	331,941	„
From H.M. Ships in port - - -	738	„	472	„
From Foreign Countries	15,360,210	„	11,021,109	„
	19,097,271		11,459,019	„

Exports.

	£		£	
Value of exports from portions of cargoes which were actually landed at this port -	85,010	against	106,942	„
And value of exports of whole cargoes which merely touched at this port and proceeded in the same bottom -	17,734,532	„	10,596,979	„
	17,819,542	„	10,703,921	„
viz. :—				
To the United Kingdom	5,838,121	against	3,759,333	in 1880.
To British Colonies -	2,553,254	„	1,269,577	„
To H.M. Ships -	5,106	„	6,134	„
To Foreign Countries -	9,423,061	„	5,668,877	„
	17,819,542		10,703,921	

Port of Malta.

The shipping movements of the port during the year 1881, as stated below, when compared with those of the year preceding, show an increase in both steam and sailing vessels.

Year.	Steamers.		Sailing.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
1880 - -	3,111	2,927,641	1,669	147,307
1881 - -	3,885	3,673,753	1,731	180,656
Increase - -	774	746,112	62	33,349

Military Expenditure.

The total amount of expenditure incurred by Great Britain in the year 1881 amounts to 280,870*l.* 19*s.* 7*d.*, of which 7,287*l.* 2*s.* 1*d.* were contributed by the Island for drainage and military defence.

Monte di Pieta Savings Banks.

The amount advanced on pledges in 1881 was:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
In Malta - - -	31,289	12	4
„ Gozo - - -	1,354	11	9
	32,644	4	1

The amount of deposits in the Savings Banks on 31st December 1881 was:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*		£	
In Malta -	262,984	11	2	by	3,927	depositors
„ Gozo -	13,956	6	1½	„	268	„
	276,940	17	3½		4,195	

Education.

The number of Government schools in these Islands is 94, attended by 9,137 scholars, 4,351 males and 4,786 females, showing a decrease of 458 pupils, 436 males and 22 females, over last year.

The increase in the expenditure on education, as compared with that incurred in 1880, was 1,875*l.* 13*s.* 6*d.*

MALTA.

Population.

The Population of these Islands on the 31st December 1881 was reported to be as follows :—

—	Males.	Females.	Total.
Malta - - - .. -	65,375	67,382	132,757
Gozo - - - - -	8,469	9,298	17,767
	73,844	76,680	150,524

The Queen's Troops, the Military Department, and persons connected with them, are not included in the above return.

The number of births, marriages, and deaths, from 1st January to 31st December, all classes included, was as follows :—

—	Births.		Marriages.		Deaths.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
Natives - -	2,893	2,611	917	957	2,045	1,977
British residents -	102	93	44	11	65	4
Foreigners - -	12	4	24	17	15	5
	3,007	2,708	985	985	2,125	1,986

Temperature and Rainfall.

The mean temperature of the air in 1881 was 69°.

The maximum was on the 28th August 96°, and the minimum on the 30th December 52°.

The average rainfall during the year was 15 inches 27 cts.

Criminal Statistics.

The following is a statement of offences punishable under the local laws, showing the number of accusations and of persons brought before the courts by the police during the year 1881, and the manner in which the same were disposed of :—

Offences.	No. of Cases.	No. of Persons.	Acquitted.	Condemned.
CRIMINAL LAWS.				
Crimes against public tranquillity - -	13	15	—	15
„ affecting public credit - -	10	10	1	9
„ „ the good order of families	7	9	4	5
„ against the person - - -	314	449	67	382
„ „ property - - -	365	543	138	405
Contempt of court - - - -	3	3	—	3
CONTRAVENTIONS.				
Affecting public order - - -	1,590	2,979	345	2,634
Against the person - - - -	404	558	71	487
„ property - - -	84	142	17	125
OTHER CONTRAVENTIONS.				
Under special Ordinances - - -	375	561	35	526
POLICE LAWS.				
Contraventions - - - - -	2,280	3,783	217	3,566
Total - -	5,445	9,052	895	8,157

viz:—

	No.
Maltese - - - -	8,908
English - - - -	114
Foreign - - - -	30
	9,052

The number of persons committed in 1881 was as follows:—

Men - - - - -	2,798
Women - - - -	326
Boys - - - -	791
Girls - - - -	4
	3,919

General Remarks.

The Customs receipts for 1881 amounted to 116,121*l.* 8*s.* 4*d.* which when compared with 1880 show a decrease of 5,076*l.* 19*s.* 1*d.*, but they were only 778*l.* 11*s.* 8*d.* below the estimate.

The importance and value of the increases greatly exceeded the deficiency of the decreases, and the falling off of 5,076*l.* was comparatively speaking but slightly injurious, and could not be taken as a symptom of any unfavourable alteration in the social circumstances of Malta. Owing to the high prices ruling foreign

MALTA.

markets "duty paid stock" was not made by the local dealers, especially by the manufacturing bakers and common wine retailers, notwithstanding the increase on the Customs receipts of the last 10 years was 3,728*l.*

The shipping movements of the ports during the year, showed an increase of steam vessels 774, and an increase of sailing vessels 62, and also an increase of tonnage in both. To give a fair idea of the importance of Malta as a port, it is enough to state that 450,955 tons of coals, 66,683 tons more than the year preceding, were heaved in and out during the year, whilst the harbour labour was almost incessantly employed. This harbour labour was much increased during the past year, owing to the advantages the Admiralty have lately conferred upon these Islands by paying off, dismantling, and refitting men of war at this port, instead of sending them to England.

No great works of magnitude were voted by the Council during the past year, the current cost of the drainage works still absorbing a considerable margin of the ordinary revenue; on the other hand, the large public works performed by the Admiralty and the engineers, and now by the railroad in construction, afforded an ample field of occupation for native labour, and placed the Island generally in a highly prosperous condition.

The health of the Island has been good throughout the year.

I have, &c.

(Signed) VICTOR HOULTON,
Chief Secretary to Government.

To His Excellency
Sir Arthur Borton, G.C.M.G., K.C.B.,
Governor of Malta.
&c. &c. &c.

CEYLON.

No. 16.

Governor Sir J. R. LONGDEN, K.C.M.G., to the Right Hon. the EARL OF KIMBERLEY.

Queen's House, Colombo, Ceylon,
August 12, 1882.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith the Blue Book of Ceylon for 1881, and to submit the following report on its contents.

2. The coffee crop, upon which the prosperity of so many classes in the Island greatly depends, was, I regret to say, from various causes, including a continuance of the leaf disease, unprecedentedly short, and the revenue suffered in consequence under nearly all the headings of receipt. It was, nevertheless, by the strictest economy consistent with the maintenance of the efficiency of the public service, and with the assistance of an unsually successful pearl fishery, found possible to confine the public expenditure within the limits of the revenue, and the position of the Colony is financially sound, but the same strict economy must still be observed, and every advantage should be taken to retrench all expenditure that can be dispensed with without injury to the service. The necessity of this will be the more obvious when I state that the revenue has fallen from Rs. 17,026,191 in 1877, to Rs. 13,686,491 last year, and is still falling.

Revenue and Expenditure.

3. The revenue for 1881 amounted to Rs. 13,686,491 97¾, or at the par of 1*s.* 10½*d.* to the rupee, officially adopted for purposes of comparison with the results of former years, to 1,283,108*l.* 12*s.* 5¼*d.*, showing a decrease of Rs. 162,635 14¼, or 15,247*l.* 0*s.* 10¾*d.*, on the revenue for 1880. The expenditure on the votes of the year amounted to Rs. 13,533,259 6, or 1,268,743*l.* 0*s.* 9*d.*, being Rs. 731,230 98½, or 68,552*l.* 18*s.* 1*d.*, less than the corresponding expenditure for the preceding year. In addition to this amount there were expended during the year a sum of Rs. 55,640 93, or 5,216*l.* 6*s.* 9*d.*, from unexpended balances of previous years brought forward for expenditure in 1881, and a sum of Rs. 389,949 47, or 36,553*l.* 19*s.* 4*d.*, out of the funds appropriated by the Surplus Funds Ordinance No. 13 of 1879. The total expenditure of the year, therefore, exclusive of course of the outlay on the Breakwater, the Railway Extension, and the Colombo Waterworks, the cost of which is specially provided for and does not figure in the annual expenditure, amounted to Rs. 13,978,849 46, or

CEYLON.

1,310,513*l.* 6*s.* 10*d.*, showing a decrease of Rs. 499,203 92½, or 46,804*l.* 3*s.* 3¼*d.*, on the corresponding total for 1880. The revenue of the year exceeded the expenditure under the votes of the year by Rs. 153,232 91¾, or 14,365*l.* 11*s.* 8¼*d.*, against which balance should be set off a sum of Rs. 26.011 which has been brought forward from the votes of the year for public works for expenditure in 1882, leaving a net excess of revenue over expenditure of Rs. 127,221 91¾, or 11,927*l.* 1*s.* 1*d.*

4. The following are the principal items of increase and decrease :—

Revenue.

5. The decrease of Rs. 51,533 87¾ under the heading of arrears of revenue of former years is mainly attributable to a more punctual collection of the revenue.

Customs.—The decrease of Rs. 52,921 31 under various items of imports is partly compensated by an increase of Rs. 12,979 88 in the amount of royalty collected at the Customs premises on plumbago.

Land Sales show a decrease of Rs. 99,511 27½, which is due partly to the general depression and partly to the strict reserve of the forests remaining at and over an altitude of 5,000 feet.

Land Revenue.—The decreases under the several headings of this item has been caused by unfavourable seasons in the North-Western and Southern Provinces, and to the operation of the Grain Tax Ordinance in the Western Province. Under this Ordinance commutation of the tythe has been effected on a liberal basis, the seed paddy for the ensuing crop, which had previously been liable to tythe, having been left out of account, as provided by the Ordinance, in calculating the average amount for which commutation has been substituted, and it is hoped that thereby an impetus will be given to paddy cultivation that will not only be highly beneficial to the cultivators, but will also result in a substantial increase of revenue on the periodical revisions of the commutation.

Licenses exhibit a decrease of Rs. 91,467 84 under the sub-head arrack, rum, and toddy, and smaller decreases under the other sub-heads, which are accounted for by the scarcity of money amongst the purchasing classes of the community.

Stamps.—There is a decrease of Rs. 73,766 92 under the sub-head general, owing to the comparative paucity of commercial and other transactions requiring the use of stamps. The decrease under the sub-head postage is due to the transfer of the receipts under this sub-head to the new heading " Postage," which shows a receipt of Rs. 227,615 20 as against a receipt of Rs. 224,281 8 under the old sub-head in 1880.

Government Vessels.—The Colonial steamer " Serendib " having been under repairs at Bombay during a portion of the year the receipts fall off to the extent of Rs. 40,804 66.

Sale of Government Property.—Timber and salt show decreases of Rs. 58,754 26½ and Rs. 34,816 1 respectively. The loss on

timber is to be attributed to the temporary weakness of the export timber market and the restricted character of building operations. The loss of revenue from salt is due to a partial failure of the local supply which necessitated an importation from India. The increase under the sub-head Colonial store is the result of the new arrangements adopted regarding the issue of stationery to public departments, which rendered necessary the transfer to general revenue of the value of the stationery in the charge of the Colonial storekeeper on 31st December 1881. Stationery which was previously paid for by the Colonial storekeeper from the vote for stores and issued to the departments free is now paid for by the departments consuming it. This arrangement involves no double entry, as the stationery is paid for in the first instance by the Colonial storekeeper from advances which are settled by payments for the stores as issued, and as a necessary consequence of the extension of the system of issue and payment in regard to stores generally to the item of stationery, the value of the stationery which had already been paid for in the hands of the Colonial storekeeper became transferable to general revenue.

Reimbursements.—The increase of Rs. 15,496 99 under the sub-head value of prison labour is chiefly accounted for by the fact that the cost of prison buildings, which it was necessary to supply during the year for the prisoners employed on works connected with the breakwater, which cost is set off against the earnings of the prisoners on the breakwater, was less than in 1880.

Miscellaneous Receipts.—The large item of increase under the sub-head unclaimed deposits, Rs. 22,435 12½, is the result of the transfer to revenue of unclaimed Courts of Requests deposits between 1866 and 1876.

Interest.—The decrease of Rs. 26,467 42 is mainly owing to the partial withdrawal of funds invested by the Crown Agents on short loans.

The Pearl Fishery shows a return Rs. 599,533, or an increase of Rs. 399,380 75 over the return for 1880.

Railway Receipts.—Comparative failure of the coffee crop, and the general depression resulting in a diminution of goods and passenger traffic, account for the decrease under this heading of Rs. 130,568 28.

Telegraph Receipts.—The increase of Rs. 27,518 81 under this heading is only apparent, the return being for the whole of the year, while the preceding one was for only the last six months of 1880.

Expenditure.

6. *On Establishments*, under which heading are included certain contingencies and allowances besides fixed and provisional salaries, there are increases amounting to Rs. 62,549 86 and decreases amounting to Rs. 77,927 46, showing a nett decrease of Rs. 15,377 60. The details of the expenditure appear in the comparative statement furnished by the Auditor-General and

CEYLON.

published in the Blue Book and call for no special remark, with the exception of the increase of Rs. 26,713 86 under the sub-head Government Railway, which is mainly accounted for by the inclusion in the estimates, under the heading establishment, of the staff for working the Matale Railway.

Services exclusive of Establishments exhibit increases amounting to Rs. 649,081 42½ and decreases amounting to Rs. 1,364,934 81, or a nett decrease of Rs. 715,853 38½.

Revenue Services.—The increase of Rs. 77,008 33 under this sub-head is owing to its having been necessary to import salt from India to supplement the local supply.

Police Services.—The increase of Rs. 46,697 50 is due partly to the failure of the police department to debit the cost of arms and ammunition purchased in England in 1880 to the votes of that year, which rendered it necessary to bring the charge to account against the votes of 1881, and partly to an increase of the number of persons confined in the police lock-ups.

Miscellaneous Services.—The taking of a census accounts for the increased expenditure of Rs. 93,864 68 under this sub-head.

Works and Buildings, and Roads, Streets, and Bridges and Canals show decreases of Rs. 263,705 63 and Rs. 885,371 61 respectively, the amount available for expenditure in these directions having necessarily been curtailed in view of the continued fall in the Colonial revenue. The public buildings and roads have, however, been kept in proper repair, and all previously existing lines of communication effectively maintained.

Colonial Store figures for an increase of Rs. 68,326 15, owing to the loss of a large consignment of stationery on board the "Penguin," which had to be replaced.

Contribution towards Military Expenditure.—The increase of Rs. 36,316 91 under this sub-heading is due to payments made in connexion with the volunteer corps.

Government Vessels.—The extensive repairs to the Colonial steamer "Serendib" account for the increase of Rs. 86,660 31.

Railway Services.—The payment of interest on the loans raised for the construction of the Matale and Nanu Oya Railways was made in 1880 for half a year only, while in 1881 it was made for the full year, hence the increase under this sub-head. The increased expenditure was to some extent compensated by a reduction in working expenses, and the nett increase is Rs. 88,829 1.

Electric Telegraph shows an increase of Rs. 109,468 60. The working of the Island telegraphs was taken over by the Colonial Government in the middle of 1880, so that in that year but half a year's expenditure was incurred in this service. In 1881 expenditure for the whole year was incurred, and, in addition to this, payment was made to the Indian Government for certain telegraph stores, and there was a further necessary expenditure on account of new dies for stamps.

Assets and Liabilities.

7. The assets of the Ceylon Government on the 31st December 1881 amounted to Rs. 13,774,822 27¼, or 1,291,389*l.* 11*s.* 9*d.*, and the liabilities on the same date to Rs. 12,315,376 97¾, or 1,154,566*l.* 11*s.* 10*d.*, and there was thus an excess of assets over liabilities of Rs. 1,459,445 29½, or 136,822*l.* 19*s.* 11*d.*

8. The debt of the Colony on the same date amounted to 1,941,665*l.* 17*s.*, consisting of 350,000*l.* being balance of the 700,000*l.* raised under the Ordinances Nos. 19 of 1862 and 7 of 1864 for the construction of the railway from Colombo to Kandy, 200,000*l.* being the amount due on debentures issued under the Ordinance No. 1 of 1876 for the improvement of the Harbour of Colombo, 116,665*l.* 17*s.* being the sum of 125,000*l.* borrowed from the Public Works Loan Commissioners for the same purpose less 8,334*l.* 3*l.* repaid, 275,000*l.* being the amount due on debentures issued under the Ordinance No. 8 of 1877 for the construction of the railway from Kandy to Matale, and 1,000,000*l.* being the amount due on debentures issued under the Ordinance No. 9 of 1878 for the construction of the railway from Nawalapitiza to Nanu Oya. The repayment of these loans is secured on the revenue of the Colony, and the sinking fund of that first mentioned had a sum of 336,200*l.* to its credit at the end of 1881.

Imports and Exports.

9. Exclusive of specie in each case the imports of the year were valued at Rs. 43,138,854 12 and the exports at Rs. 35,655,397 94, showing respectively decreases of Rs. 4,248,392 90 and Rs. 14,770,813 98 in comparison with the corresponding total for 1880.

10. *Imports.*—Cotton goods, twist, and thread show a total value of Rs. 5,293,467 as against Rs. 7,280,308 in 1880, and a collection of the duty on the quantity cleared of Rs. 223,249, or Rs. 39,640 less than the collection in the preceding year. The items comprised under the sub-head food articles exhibit slight increases and decreases, and in grain there is a diminution of Rs. 110,773, and a small decrease in the value of rice imported for home consumption, the figures for 1881 and 1880 being Rs. 5,943,579 and Rs. 6,002,037 respectively. Live stock, machinery, and metals show decreases of Rs. 321,109, Rs. 73,321, and Rs. 126,990, while manures and poonac show increases of Rs. 158,969 and Rs. 42,893. Spirits, tobacco, and wines all show slight decreases in value of importation, but the duty collected on the former entered for home consumption an increase of Rs. 27,682.

11. *Exports.*—The large falling off in the value of exports is shown chiefly on coffee, there being a decrease as compared with the previous year of 204,619 cwts. of plantation and 14,984 cwts. of native coffee, valued respectively at Rs. 11,454,679 and Rs. 509,456. There are also decreases in copperah, cocoanut oil,

timber, and unmanufactured tobacco, and increases in cinnamon, areca nuts, and citronella oil; cinchona bark and tea show increases of 152,565 lbs. and 185,998 lbs. respectively. Under plumbago, the royalty on which is levied at the Customs, there is a considerable rise, the exportation having amounted to 259,909 cwts. as against 205,738 cwts., and the royalty to Rs. 65,028 4 as against Rs. 51,434 94 in 1880.

12. *Shipping.*—As compared with 1880 there is an increase of 97,224 tons inwards and of 66,136 outwards.

Public Works.

13. The expenditure of the Public Works Department, including the sums contributed for grants-in-aid roads, under the Ordinance, Rs. 60,611 21 from appropriation from Loan Board funds by special Ordinance, and Rs. 86,425 74 from Colombo Waterworks funds, amounted to Rs. 2,568,461 37, or about one-third less than the expenditure of the preceding year. The cost of the establishment, including salaries, fixed and provisional, allowances, and office contingencies, but exclusive of transport and other general charges, of which the details are given under "departmental charges," and "miscellaneous," was Rs. 311,182 89, against Rs. 336,054 38 in 1880. The Elephant Pass Causeway, in the Northern Province completing an unbroken line of communication between the Northern Island or peninsula of Jaffna and the rest of Ceylon, by a well constructed and bridged road was finished during the year. A length of 45·68 miles was added to the principal roads of the Island, and the whole of the mileage, 2804·40 miles, was maintained in good order. The average cost of the up-keep of the roads was Rs. 80 60 per mile less than in 1880, which was due partly to the maintenance of some roads having been let on contract on reduced rates, and partly to a falling off in the amount of traffic over the roads in the coffee districts. The system of letting the up-keep of roads on contract is being extended, and so far with fairly satisfactory results. The erection of new buildings for the Supreme Court at Colombo was commenced at the close of the year. The cost of the maintenance of irrigation works was Rs. 34,023 50, that of the salaries and allowances of irrigation officers employed chiefly on irrigation surveys and supervision of labour on village tanks Rs. 37,978 67, and the expenditure on new works in connection with irrigation works Rs. 50,178 29, of which about three fifths was spent on sluices for village tanks. The subjoined tables exhibit (1) a classification of the expenditure under the headings establishment, construction, up-keep, improvements, and departmental and miscellaneous charges; (2) the funds from which the expenditure has been met; (3) the expenditure incurred in the several provinces; and (4) an abstract of the expenditure in the various classes of public works in each of the provinces of the Island.

(1.)

——	1881.	1880.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.
Establishment, including allowances and contingencies - - -	311,182 89	336,054 38	—	24,871 49
Up-keep of roads, bridges, canals, and irrigation works - - -	1,589,928 63½	1,816,222 35	—	226,293 71½
Repairs of buildings - -	85,769 65½	92,944 30½	—	7,174 65
Departmental charges and miscellaneous - -	112,602 17	288,694 15½	—	176,091 98½
New works and buildings -	113,645 76	316,399 65	—	202,753 89
Alterations and additions to buildings - -	6,918 89	50,430 57	—	43,511 68
New roads and additions to roads - - -	208,598 19	568,266 38	—	359,668 19
New bridges - -	51,658 22	94,289 11	—	42,630 89
Inland navigation - -	—	—	—	—
Irrigation works - -	88,156 96	291,554 46	—	203,397 50
Total - -	2,568,461 37	3,854,855 36	—	1,286,393 99

(2.)

——	1881.	1880.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.
Supply Bill, 1881 -	1,960,973 79	3,108,875 21½	—	1,147,901 42½
Supplementary Supply Bill	24,587 43	65,591 72½	—	41,004 29½
Unexpended balances of previous years - -	54,951 94	77,878 67	—	22,926 73
Road Ordinance funds -	234,246 49	236,254 98	—	2,008 49
Private contribution -	84,738 3	196,766 01	—	112,027 98
Loan board funds - -	60,611 21	8,039 66	52,571 55	—
From other departments -	58,808 9	11,436 28	47,371 81	—
Surplus funds - -	3,118 65	49,681 16	—	46,562 51
From vote for Colombo waterworks - -	86,425 74	100,331 66	—	13,905 92
Total - -	2,568,461 37	3,854,855 36	99,943 36	1,386,337 35

(3.)

——	1881.	1880.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.
Western Province - -	800,176 38	1,204,778 30½	—	404,601 92½
North-western Province -	169,452 91½	240,853 88½	—	71,400 97
Southern Province -	216,296 53	295,037 51	—	78,740 98
Eastern Province - -	157,074 98	269,337 94	—	112,262 96
Northern Province -	223,148 27	202,659 54	20,488 73	—
North Central Province -	110,149 49½	187,703 11	—	77,553 61½
Central Province - -	892,162 80	1,454,485 7	—	562,322 27
Total - -	2,568,461 37	3,854,855 36	20,488 73	1,306,882 72

(4.)

Heads of Service.	Western Province.	North-western Province.	Southern Province.	Eastern Province.	Central Province.	Northern Province.	North Central Province.	Total.
Works and Buildings.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.
New works and buildings	74,661 16	12,755 89	*500 0* 8,477 78	3,683 4	8,712 3	4,855 86	- - -	*500 00* 113,145 76
Alterations and additions to buildings	2,567 13	- - -	- - -	2,110 0	585 36	- - -	1,656 40	6,918 89
Repairs to buildings	31,313 73	*1,303 74* 2,587 64½	*1,296 60* 10,392 87	4,285 48	19,373 29	*604 76* 8,023 51	*1,050 86* 5,537 17	*4,255 96* 81,513 69½
Roads, Streets, Bridges, and Canals.					*11,200 44*			*11,200 44*
New roads	85,952 13	- -	- - -	- - -	94,095 15	- - -	- - -	180,047 28
Additions and improvements to roads	- - -	- - -	- - -	*3,683 88* 13,666 59	- - -	- - -	- - -	*3,683 88* 13,666 59
Up-keep of roads	*70,073 63* 288,770 63	*37,970 69* 63,349 61	*30,608 30* 110,329 71	*9,796 96* 70,000 36	*103,910 50* 550,454 45	*28,634 27* 78,956 0	*8,746 20* 34,024 61½	*289,740 55* 1,195,885 37½
New bridges	166 0	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	51,492 22	- - -	51,658 22
Repair of bridges	13,853 56	4,432 89	7,957 10	4,586 43	4,157 16	2,996 15	1,585 15	39,568 44
Inland navigation	*6,811 84* 8,976 6	*1,349 35* 10,573 97	- - -	- - -	- - -	*1,000 0* 1,999 55	- - -	*9,161 19* 21,549 58
Irrigation Works.								
New works	729 55	10,146 78	9,046 77	8,463 18	11,642 73	18,636 63	29,491 32	88,156 96
Up-keep works	777 21	3,500 9	12,835 80	9,616 23	1,319 27	399 95	5,574 95	34,023 50
Departmental Charges.								
Ferry boats	1,383 58	- - -	- - -	417 33	- - -	- -	- - -	1,800 91
General service	8,906 61	- - -	- - -	- - -	1,637 65	- -	- - -	10,544 26
Miscellaneous	56,579 18	3,996 84	*442 50* 5,447 49	4,998 20	18,346 3	5,557 71	4,889 5	*442 50* 99,814 50
	76,885 47 574,636 53	*40,623 78* 111,343 71½	*32,847 40* 164,487 52	*13,480 84* 121,826 84	*115,110 94* 710,323 12	*30,239 3* 172,917 58	*9,797 6* 82,758 65½	*318,984 52* 1,938,293 96
Establishment	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	311,182 89
Total Rs.	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	*318,984 52* 2,249,476 85

The figures in *Italic* denote expenditure under the Road Ordinance Funds and Private Contribution.

The Queen's Houses are reported to be in fair order, except the roof at Queen's House, Colombo, and the furniture at the latter building, and at the Pavilion Kandy, to have been suitably maintained. The furniture at Queen's Cottage, Nuwara Eliya, is not provided at the public expense.

Breakwater.

14. The breakwater was lengthened during the year by 923 feet, and 117,871 yards of sand were dredged from the harbour at a cost of Rs. 1,318,606 28, bringing the total length to 2,818 feet and the total cost to Rs. 5,849,593 95 at the end of the year.

Survey Department.

15. The sale of Crown lands is reported by the Surveyor-General to have realised, inclusive of survey fees and tracing fees, the sum of Rs. 434,662 73 against Rs. 651,862 in the previous year, of which sum the amount of Rs. 408.703 59½ as stated in

the Auditor-General's return was brought to account during the year. The decrease has occurred almost entirely in the central province, owing to the depression of the planting interest, and also to the fact that there is but little accessible forest land suitable for planting left between the elevations of 2,500 and 5,000 feet. The revenue from the Western Province was not much less than that of the preceding year, and increases are shown in the returns from the Eastern, Southern, Northern, and North-central Provinces. The gross expenditure of the department from its own votes was Rs. 374,181 23, of which Rs. 45,648 15 was expended on Chena and railway surveys, and other work not directly reproductive, leaving Rs. 328,533 8 as the cost of the ordinary work of surveying lands for sale and settlement. In the following tables will be found the details of the lots alienated in the several provinces, and an abstract of the lands disposed of to Europeans and natives respectively, and a return of all lands disposed of in each province during the year.

A.

ABSTRACT showing the Number of LOTS, ACREAGE, PURCHASE AMOUNT, and FEES of LANDS sold or otherwise alienated from the Crown in the respective PROVINCES during the year 1881.

Provinces.	Lots sold and granted at Half Value.					Lots sold on Certificates, Free Grants, &c.			Total Receipts for each Province.
	No. of Lots.	Extent.	Purchase Amount.	Average Rate per Acre.	Fees.	No. of Lots.	Extent.	Fees.	
		A. R. P.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.		A. R P.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.
Central - -	542	3,802 2 34	72,271 27	19 0	8,711 38	245	969 3 12·50	2,533 17	83,515 82
Western -	2,228	10,306 0 25	180,254 91	17 49	25,223 0	1,678	3,382 0 7	10,979 10	*216,457 1
Eastern - -	187	1,856 2 3	23,161 0	12 47	4,266 80	1	254 2 0	356 0	27,783 80
Southern -	749	2,792 2 37	46,819 75	16 76	7,298 50	55	83 1 16	274 50	54,392 75
Northern -	207	840 0 14	12,027 77	14 32	2,382 20	—	—	—	14,409 97
North-western	237	1,916 1 35	21,263 0	11 9	4,409 70	21	105 0 20	271 50	25,944 20
North Central	136	508 0 34	7,205 0	14 18	1,349 10	—	—	—	8,554 10
Fees for tracings, &c. -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3,605 8
Total -	4,286	22,022 3 22	363,002 70	16 48	53,640 68	2,000	4,794 3 15·50	14,414 27	434,662 73

B.

ABSTRACT of LANDS sold and granted and otherwise disposed of to EUROPEANS and NATIVES in 1881.

Provinces.	Europeans.			Natives.		
	Lots.	Extent.	Amount and Fees.	Lots.	Extent.	Amount and Fees.
		A. R. P.	Rs. cts.		. R. P.	Rs. cts.
Central - - -	211	3,143 2 13·50	59,864 47	576	1,628 3 33	23,651 35
Western - - -	62	2,777 3 36	36,103 20	3,844	10,910 0 36	*180,353 81
Eastern - - -	14	780 2 39	6,623 30	174	1,330 1 4	21,160 50
Southern - - -	37	349 0 23	4,256 90	767	2,526 3 30	50,135 85
Northern - -	—	—	—	207	840 0 14	14,409 97
North-western - -	18	165 3 26	2,147 30	240	1,855 2 29	23,796 90
North Central - -	—	—	—	136	508 0 34	8,554 10
Total - -	342	7,217 1 17·50	108,995 17	5,944	19,600 1 20	322,062 48

* Including Chenas.

D.

RETURN of LANDS sold or otherwise disposed of during the Year 1881.

Provinces.	Crown Lands sold.				Encroachments sold or given at a Valuation.				Granted at Half Value.				Old Grants or Grants made in terms of the Minute of 8th Aug. 1844.			Free Grants or Settlements for Certificates against the Crown.			Total Results of Sales, &c. of each Province during the year 1881.				
	Lots.	Extent.	Amount.	Fees.	Lots.	Extent.	Amount.	Fees.	Lots.	Extent.	Amount.	Fees.	Lots.	Extent.	Fees.	Lots.	Extent.	Fees.	Lots.	Extent.	Amount.	Fees.	Amount including Fees.
		Acres.	Rs.	Rs.		Acrs.	Rs.	Rs.		Acrs.	Rs.	Rs.		Acrs.	Rs.		Acres.	Rs.		Acres.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Central - -	270	3,067	60,168	6,598	216	472	4,799	1,455	56	263	7,304	659	—	—	—	245	970	2,533	787	4,772	72,271	11,245	83,516
Western - -	1,958	9,837	169,392	23,701	—	—	—	—	270	469	10,862	1,523	—	—	—	1,678	3,382	10,979	3,906	13,688	180,254	36,203	216,457
Eastern - -	173	1,830	22,567	4,179	7	22	372	65	7	5	222	23	—	—	—	1	254	356	188	2,111	23,161	4,623	27,784
Southern - -	399	2,262	35,136	5,447	309	488	10,368	1,687	41	43	1,316	165	—	—	—	55	83	274	804	2,876	46,820	7,573	54,393
Northern - -	207	840	12,028	2,382	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	207	840	12,028	2,382	14,410
North-western -	217	1,887	20,838	4,315	—	—	—	—	20	30	425	95	—	—	—	21	105	271	258	2,022	21,263	4,681	25,944
North Central -	136	508	7,205	1,349	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	136	508	7,205	1,349	8,554
Fees for tracings, &c. - - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3,605
Total -	3,360	20,231	327,334	47,971	532	982	15,539	3,207	394	810	20,129	2,465	—	—	—	2,000	4,794	14,413	6,286	26,817	363,002	68,056	434,663

Railway.

16. The length of line open for public traffic was the same as in 1880, viz., 136¾ miles, exclusive of the line for the carriage of materials for the breakwater works. The total receipts for the year are returned by the traffic manager at Rs. 2,882,706, or less by Rs. 129,685 than those of 1880, of which Rs. 2,880,090 67 was brought to account within the year, and the working expenses, exclusive of expenditure on new works, at Rs. 1,357,893 against Rs. 1,367,597 for the preceding year. The main line showed a profit on receipts over working expenses of 7·7 per cent., the branch line from Peradeniya to Nawalapitiya a profit of 3 per cent., the branch line from Kandy to Matale a loss of Rs. 10,718 75, and the coast line from Colombo to Kalutara a profit of 2·9 per cent.

Legislation.

17. The following Ordinances were passed during the year:—

No. 1.—To amend the Ordinance No. 1 of 1876, intituled "An "Ordinance for the raising by Debentures of a further sum of four "hundred thousand pounds sterling for the improvement of the "harbour of Colombo." This Ordinance was necessary to assimilate the date of appropriation for sinking fund on further debentures issued under the Ordinance No. 1 of 1876 to that prevailing for debentures first issued under Ordinance No. 9 of 1878.

No. 2.—To amend the Ordinance No. 10 of 1865, intituled "An Ordinance relating to the Ceylon Railway." This Ordinance provides for the publication of the railway byelaws, and for affecting all persons with notice of the byelaws when published.

No. 3.—To make provision for the recovery of expenses incurred in enforcing quarantine.

No. 4.—To continue the Ordinance No. 2 of 1879, intituled "An Ordinance to check coffee stealing." The Legislative Council was satisfied that circumstances required and justified the continuance of the Coffee Stealing Ordinance which expired during the session, and it was continued accordingly for two years.

No. 5.—To amend the law relative to the distillation and sale of arrack, rum, and toddy within these Settlements. This Ordinance provides for raising the fees to be paid for distillers, and wholesale dealers' licenses from Rs. 30 to Rs. 100, and for throwing the burden of proof on the defendant in cases where the information or plaint negatives the existence of any exemption, proviso, or condition in the Arrack, Rum, and Toddy Ordinance, No. 10 of 1844.

No. 6.—For making provision for the contingent service for the year 1882.

No. 7.—To make temporary provision for securing the status of French mail steamers within the ports of this Colony. This Ordinance, which is a temporary enactment expiring on December 31st, 1882, was passed to give legal effect to certain provisions of the Postal Convention with France.

CEYLON.

No. 8.—To amend the Ordinance No. 3 of 1861, intituled "An "Ordinance to authorise the formation of a volunteer corps in "this Colony, and to provide for the good order and discipline "thereof." This Ordinance was necessitated by the supersession of the Mutiny Act and Articles of War, by the Army Discipline Act of 1879, and the Army Act of 1881.

No. 9.—Further to amend the Ordinance No. 3 of 1861, intituled "An Ordinance to authorise the formation of volunteer "corps in this Colony, and to provide for the good order and "discipline thereof." The Volunteer Ordinance No. 3 of 1861 empowered the persons forming the corps of volunteers to make the rules and regulations of such corps. The present amending Ordinance empowers the Governor with the advice of the Executive Council to make regulations concerning the appointment and promotion of officers, the assembling and proceedings of courts of inquiry for the execution of the Ordinance No. 3 of 1861, and the general government and discipline of the force; and it empowers the officers and volunteers of the corps to make rules, subject to the approval of the Governor and the Executive Council, for the management of the property, finances, and civil affairs of the corps.

No. 10.—To establish further tolls and to discontinue certain tolls.

No. 11.—To amend Ordinance No. 4 of 1879, intituled "An "Ordinance to provide for the further appropriation of certain "unclaimed balances from the funds of the Loan Board."

No. 12.—For making final provision for the supplementary contingent charges for the year 1880.

No. 13.—To amend the Ordinance No. 8 of 1863 and the Ordinance No. 3 of 1865. This Ordinance was passed to settle certain doubts that had arisen as to the amounts of stamp duty payable in certain cases under the existing Land Registration Ordinances.

No. 14.—To amend the Ordinance No. 1 of 1870, intituled "an Ordinance relating to the fixed civil establishments of this Colony." This Ordinance provides for the discontinuance under the conditions stated of the salaries and allowances hitherto payable to the ecclesiastical establishment.

No. 15.—For the appointment of incorporated trustees of the Church of England in Ceylon. This Ordinance was necessitated by the prospective withdrawal of all State grants to the Church of England, and the consequent decision on the part of Government to abandon all its right, title, interest, powers, and control in and over all churches affected or to be affected by such withdrawal.

No. 16.—To amend "The Municipal Councils Ordinance 1865," and for other purposes This Ordinance provides for the legalisation of certain municipal byelaws, for the disqualification for election or service as a municipal councillor of uncertificated insolvent debtors and persons convicted of an infamous crime, and for some minor amendments in the Municipal Councils Ordinance of 1865.

No. 17.—For making provision for the supplementary contingent charges for the year 1881.

No. 18.—To amend "the Medical Wants Ordinance, 1880." This Ordinance provides for the recovery from the estates of the cost of providing medical aid to immigrant labourers employed thereon, by means of a capitation assessment, and for enabling the Government agents to obtain returns for such labourers to serve as a basis for the computation of the assessment leviable.

Public Health.

18. In 1880 the Island was singularly free from serious disease, and I am glad to be able to record that during 1881 also the general health of the community is reported by the Principal Civil Medical Officer to have been satisfactory. The total expenditure on Government hospitals during the year was Rs. 233,280 24, showing a diminution on the expenditure in 1880, Rs. 250,178 65, of Rs. 16,898 41, and the cost of the establishment was Rs. 3,413 48 less than in the preceding year, the figures being Rs. 277,673 34 and Rs. 281,086 82 in 1881 and 1880 respectively. The statistics of the year as shown in the return of the Government hospitals are summarised in the Table which is subjoined :—

SUMMARY of GENERAL ANNUAL RETURN relating to twenty-three Civil Hospitals, the Galle, and the Police Hospital at

Provinces.	I. General Diseases A.	General Diseases B.	II. Local Diseases. 1. Nervous System.	2. Eye.	3. Ear.	4. Nose.	5. Circulatory System.	6. Absorbent System.	7. Ductless Glands.	8. Respiratory System.	9. Digestive System.	10. Urinary System.	11. Generative System.	12. Organs of Locomotion.	13. Cellular Tissue.	14. Cutaneous System.	III. Conditions.	IV. Poisons.	V. Wounds and Injuries.	VI. Surgical operations.
Western Province.																				
Remained 31st December 1880	23	188	241	2	–	–	–	–	–	1	32	15	10	4	8	48	14	–	12	1
Since admitted - - -	1,039	1,486	211	37	3	4	28	3	–	166	1,046	413	214	43	124	1,204	278	12	550	10
Total - - -	1,062	1,674	452	39	3	4	28	3	–	167	1,078	428	224	47	132	1,252	292	12	562	11
Discharged - - -	1,026	1,357	159	37	3	4	19	3	–	143	708	408	209	44	122	1,146	213	8	502	10
Died - - -	20	130	33	–	–	–	6	–	–	18	328	2	6	–	6	25	68	3	30	1
Remaining 31st December 1881	16	187	260	2	–	–	3	–	–	6	42	18	9	3	4	81	11	1	30	–
North-western Province.																				
Remained 31st December 1880	19	15	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	3	17	4	1	4	–	43	5	–	3	–
Since admitted - - -	557	405	23	4	–	3	1	–	–	76	379	71	12	31	43	849	156	5	97	2
Total - - -	576	420	24	4	–	3	1	–	–	79	396	75	13	35	43	892	161	5	100	2
Discharged - - -	526	346	21	4	–	3	1	–	–	61	275	71	12	31	43	817	131	5	87	2
Died - - -	33	60	2	–	–	–	–	–	–	17	106	–	–	3	–	8	24	–	7	–
Remaining 31st December 1881	17	14	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	15	4	1	1	–	67	6	–	6	–
Southern Province.																				
Remained 31st December 1880	3	21	1	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	11	9	–	–	–	16	1	–	6	–
Since admitted - - -	245	573	30	17	4	3	5	4	–	68	241	228	69	32	63	562	17	2	335	1
Total - - -	248	594	31	17	4	4	5	4	–	68	252	237	69	32	63	578	18	2	341	1
Discharged - - -	234	552	28	16	4	4	2	4	–	60	189	228	57	28	60	529	14	2	306	1
Died - - -	6	19	3	–	–	–	1	–	–	6	53	1	2	2	1	4	4	–	15	–
Remaining 31st December 1881	8	23	–	1	–	–	2	–	–	2	10	8	10	2	2	45	–	–	20	
Northern Province.																				
Remained 31st December 1880	5	7	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	4	–	–	–	–	51	–	–	2	–
Since admitted - - -	111	125	9	10	1	–	–	–	2	28	91	22	3	37	19	464	13	–	40	3
Total - - -	116	132	9	10	1	–	–	–	2	28	95	22	3	37	19	515	13	–	42	3
Discharged - - -	109	119	8	10	1	–	–	–	2	21	75	21	3	36	18	457	11	–	41	2
Died - - -	4	6	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	6	15	–	–	–	1	6	1	–	1	1
Remaining 31st December 1881	3	7	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	5	1	–	1	–	52	1	–	–	–
Eastern Province.																				
Remained 31st December 1880	5	8	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	1	–	1	–	28	–	–	5	–
Since admitted - - -	145	98	13	2	–	–	–	–	–	15	94	10	7	1	12	175	32	–	46	1
Total - - -	150	106	13	2	–	–	–	–	–	15	95	11	7	2	12	203	32	–	51	1
Discharged - - -	138	88	13	2	–	–	–	–	–	15	70	10	6	2	11	180	23	–	48	–
Died - - -	5	7	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	24	–	–	–	1	9	4	–	1	–
Remaining 31st December 1881	7	11	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	1	1	–	–	14	5	–	2	1
Central Province.																				
Remained 31st December 1880	25	63	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	6	32	9	5	–	2	27	30	–	10	2
Since admitted - - -	1,206	1,240	54	20	–	2	1	2	–	260	1,027	155	71	6	73	682	508	5	335	12
Total - - -	1,231	1,303	54	20	–	2	1	2	–	266	1,059	164	76	6	75	709	538	5	345	14
Discharged - - -	1,193	1,088	41	20	–	2	1	2	–	233	636	155	73	6	72	655	424	5	313	12
Died - - -	15	167	12	–	–	–	–	–	–	28	396	–	2	–	71	11	95	–	16	1
Remaining 31st December 1881	23	48	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	5	27	9	1	–	2	43	19	–	16	1
Total - -	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–

The number treated in the 23 Government Civil Hospitals, &c. &c.
Total number
Total number of deaths, 1,890 or

De Soys, a Lying-in Hospital, the Lunatic and the Leper Asylums, the Lock Hospital at Maradana for the Year 1881.

VII. Human Parasites.	VIII. Congenital Malformation.	Total.	For Diet.	Servants.	Equipment.	Contingencies not included under the foregoing heads.	Salaries of Medical Officers.	Total.	Amount recovered for maintenance of patients in Hospital.	Balance remaining on hand at the end of the year after dieting sick merchant seamen.
-	-	599	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.
-	2	6,873								
-	2	7,472								
-	2	6,123	81,498 67½	24,880 33	11,702 30	2,399 12½	27,600 0	148,090 43	1,698 27	190 05
-	-	676								
-	-	673								
-	-	115								
-	-	2,714								
-	-	2,829								
-	-	2,436	13,875 78	3,636 0	961 32	155 54	7,600 0	29,228 64	406 82	—
-	-	260								
-	-	133								
-	-	69								
-	-	2,499								
-	-	2,568								
-	-	2,318	15,390 24	6,693 34	1,708 92	213 20	10,200 0	34,205 70	849 56¾	—
-	-	117								
-	-	133								
-	-	69								
-	-	978								
-	-	1,047								
-	-	934	6,912 65	2,209 31	260 59	127 41	3,900 0	13,409 96	17 0	—
-	-	42								
-	-	71								
-	-	49								
-	-	651								
-	-	700								
-	-	606	4,878 48	1,718 0	207 68	28 37	7,250 0	14,082 53	206 85	—
-	-	51								
-	-	43								
-	-	211								
-	2	5,661								
-	2	5,872								
-	2	4,933	36,307 12	10,503 94	3,648 98	352 94	16,000 0	66,812 98	1,942 62¾	—
-	-	744								
-	-	195								
Total	-		161,862 94½	49,640 92	18,499 79	3,276 58½	72,550 0	305,830 24	5,120 53½	—

amounted to 19,945, the deaths to 1,888, the death rate being 9·46.
treated, 20,488.
9·22 per cent. of cases treated.

CEYLON.

Education.

19. The total number of Government and grant-in-aid schools on the 31st of December was 1,237, with a nominal attendance of 84,757 pupils, showing an apparent increase over the previous year of 35 schools and 3,643 scholars. These figures, however, include for the first time the schools receiving special grants or supervised by the department under special arrangements. There were, in 1880, 10 of these schools giving instruction to 570 scholars, so that the real increase for the year is represented by 25 schools and 3,073 scholars. This does not include any registered grant-in-aid school not examined during the year. Of the above 1,237 schools 398 were Government schools with 23,626 scholars, and 839 grant schools with 61,131 scholars. The total expenditure for the year was Rs. 482,840 55, which, compared with Rs. 491,869 38 for 1880, shows a decrease of Rs. 9,028 83. The sum voted for the service of the department amounted to Rs. 501,638, showing an unexpended balance of Rs. 18,797 45. Seventeen Government schools were closed during the year, and 46 schools were added to the list, including 4 out of the 10 special schools referred to above. There was consequently an increase of 29 schools as compared with the preceding year. The proportion of scholars in daily attendance to the total number on the list in Government schools was 67·9 per cent., being a decrease of 3·9 per cent. as compared with the year previous. The total expenditure on account of Government schools, exclusive of cost of direction and inspection, was Rs. 204,597 69, and the nett expenditure, deducting Rs. 23,643 06, being receipts from school fees and sale of stationery, was Rs. 180,954 63. The average cost to Government of educating each pupil in the Government schools was consequently Rs. 7·66, compared with Rs. 8·55 in 1880. The average for middle and primary schools, exclusive of 4 high schools, was Rs. 6 12, as compared with Rs. 6 84 for the previous year. The expenditure on account of grants-in-aid amounted to Rs. 194,400 53 for the year October 1st, 1880, to September 30th, 1881, being a decrease of Rs. 10,056 83 as compared with the expenditure of the previous year. In the following tables are shown (1) the number of boys and girls under instruction and the per-centage of daily attendance; (2) the classification of the schools with reference to locality, standard of instruction, and proportion of population under instruction; (3) the nationality and religion of the scholars; (4) the number of scholars examined in the several standards; and (5) the amount of grants-in-aid earned by the several missions throughout the island.

(1.)

	Number of Schools.	Number of Boys.	Number of Girls.	Total Number of Boys and Girls.	Average Attendance.	Per-centage.
GOVERNMENT.						
English - -	26	1,521	455	1,976	1,646	83
Anglo-vernacular -	25	1,926	152	2,078	1,382	66
Vernacular - -	347	15,967	3,605	19,572	13,034	66
GRANT-IN-AID.						
English - -	77	7,133	845	7,978	5,736	71
Anglo-vernacular -	82	4,062	847	4,909	3,355	68
Vernacular - -	680	33,582	14,662	48,244	29,712	61
Total - -	1,237	64,191	20,566	84,757	54,865	—

(2.)

Class of Schools.	Western Province.		Southern Province.		Northern Province.		Eastern Province.	
	Schools.	Pupils.	Schools.	Pupils.	Schools.	Pupils.	Schools.	Pupils.
English - -	43	4,516	17	1,676	19	1,986	7	565
Anglo-vernacular -	35	2,502	14	941	23	1,527	2	80
Vernacular - -	471	32,254	98	5,857	245	17,375	98	5,722
Total - -	549	39,212	129	8,474	287	20,888	107	6,367
Population - -	897,993		431,396		303,010		128,070	
Proportion under instruction according to census of 1881.	1 in 22		1 in 51		1 in 14		1 in 20	

(*continued.*)

Class of Schools.	Central Province.		North-western Province.		North Central Province.		Total.	
	Schools.	Pupils.	Schools.	Pupils.	Schools.	Pupils.	Schools.	Pupils.
English - -	11	891	6	320	—	—	103	9,954
Anglo-vernacular -	29	1,726	3	184	1	27	107	6,987
Vernacular - -	54	2,920	50	3,339	11	349	1,027	67,816
Total - -	94	5,537	59	3,843	12	376	1,237	84,757
Population - -	639,274		292,751		66,035		2,758,529	
Proportion under instruction according to census of 1881.	1 in 115		1 in 76		1 in 175		1 in 32	

(3.)

Nationality.		*Religion.*	
English - - -	84	Buddhist - - -	33,405
European descendants - -	2,252	Hindu - - - -	22,429
Sinhalese - - -	51,806	Roman Catholic - -	20,342
Malabar - - -	28,914	Church of England - -	3,379
Malay - - - -	339	Wesleyan - - -	2,148
Moor - - - -	1,319	Presbyterian, Baptist, and other Christians - - -	1,343
Other - - - -	43	Mahommedans - -	1,688
		Other - - - -	23

(4.)

——	No. of Children examined in Government English Schools.	No. of Children examined in Government Anglo-vernacular Schools.	No. of Children examined in Government Vernacular Schools.	No. of Children examined in Grant-in-aid English Schools.	No. of Children examined in Grant-in-aid Anglo-vernacular Schools.	No. of Children examined in Grant-in-aid Vernacular Schools.	Total.
Standard I. - -	201	256	3,098	757	568	6,778	11,658
Standard II. - -	199	188	2,409	799	498	5,442	9,535
Standard III. -	216	205	1,550	1,029	599	5,492	9,091
Standard IV.- -	196	149	812	910	357	2,655	5,079
Standard V. - -	114	118	350	642	224	708	2,156
Standard VI. - -	81	75	94	450	116	138	954
Standard VII. -	36	28	8	26	37	—	135
Standard VIII. -	9	4	—	24	8	—	45
Total - -	1,052	1,023	8,321	4,637	2,407	21,213	38,653

(5.)

——	English.	Anglo-vernacular.	Vernacular.	Total.	Amount of Grant. Rs.	cts.
American - - -	5	14	111	130	24,596	82
Baptist - - -	—	8	27	35	5,525	00
Buddhist - - -	—	—	4	4	1,427	35
Church of England (C.M.S.)	8	33	117	158	26,923	45
Church of England, Diocesan	15	7	44	*66	20,148	31
Private - - -	7	2	18	27	11,716	20
Roman Catholic - -	27	3	180	210	59,976	78
Wesleyan - - -	15	15	179	209	37,679	7
Total - -	77	82	680	839	187,992	98

* This includes all the Church of England Schools not supported by the C.M.S.

Judicial Statistics.

20. The Queen's Advocate reports that the criminal statistics of the year compare favourably on the whole with those of any of the five preceding years. There was, however, a marked increase in the number of convictions for manslaughter, the figures being 67 against 51 in 1880. The convictions for cattle stealing also showed a considerable increase, being 49 in excess of the convictions for 1880, and more than double the average of the four years 1876, 1877, 1878, and 1879. A large proportion, however, of this increase is to be attributed to increased vigilance in detecting and prosecuting offenders. Offences against property continue to show a decrease, the summary convictions for such offences being fewer than in any of the seven preceding years, and the convictions in the Superior Courts fewer than in either 1879 or 1880.

21. Prefixed to the Blue Book will be found a table giving a statistical view of the progress of the Colony from the year 1821 to 1881 inclusive, and an abstract of the principal statistical results for the years 1880 and 1881.

I have, &c

The Right Hon. (Signed) J. R. LONGDEN,
The Earl of Kimberley, Governor.
&c. &c.

STATISTICAL VIEW of the progress of CEYLON from the Year 1821 to 1881 inclusive.

Year.	Area in square miles.	Population.	Military.	Births.	Marriages.	Deaths.	Schools.		Estimated Number of Acres under cultivation.	Land Sales.		Revenue.	Expenditure.
							Schools.	Number of Scholars.		Extent.	Amount realized, including Fees.		
									Acres.	Acres.	£	£	£
1821		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	459,699	481,854
1822		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	473,669	458,346
1823		751,210	5,852	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	355,406	476,242
1824		753,159	4,241	5,333	2,645	—	—	—	—	—	—	387,259	441,592
1825		754,394	5,476	5,285	2,514	—	—	—	—	—	—	355,320	495,529
1826		752,903	3,985	4,549	3,946	—	—	—	—	—	—	278,350	394,229
1827		889,584	4,010	4,560	3,846	—	—	—	—	—	—	264,735	411,648
1828		934,260	—	18,739	5,183	10,283	—	—	243,309	1,555	—	305,712	339,516
1829		941,739	—	18,062	5,163	12,018	—	—	311,301	1,160	—	389,534	344,757
1830		962,155	—	19,408	5,529	14,810	—	—	416,982	1,279	—	403,475	347,029
1831		959,917	—	20,993	4,754	17,998	—	—	381,059	6,154	—	420,170	346,565
1832		1,009,008	—	18,705	8,114	17,025	—	—	394,829	2,784	—	369,437	338,100
1833		1,126,808	—	21,654	8,899	22,380	—	—	456,206			437,555	331,764
1834		1,167,700	—	21,930	7,527	15,424	1,105	13,891	1,462,163			377,952	334,835
1835		1,241,825	6,227	30,200	10,284	17,486	1,159	14,551	1,637,944			371,995	323,277
1836		1,240,653	5,630	30,186	10,276	17,439	1,209	16,529	1,676,116			406,787	352,986
1837		1,256,019	5,577	24,319	9,356	15,051	1,204	16,329	1,656,271			371,994	390,706
1838		1,283,479	5,705	25,070	8,013	15,875	964	13,582	1,621,007	267,373	142,758	339,437	359,074
1839		1,368,838	5,763	23,280	9,814	14,238	1,048	16,553	700,029			372,013	383,592
1840		1,400,280	4,793	24,700	8,927	22,480	495	16,489	588,460			331,200	355,298
1841		1,365,779	4,651	25,572	8,767	23,377	529	21,631	809,984			344,465	361,326
1842		1,364,539	4,743	24,736	8,515	15,784	661	20,703	760,821			322,369	327,103
1843		1,442,062	4,654	40,666	17,793	27,396	—	—	—			383,118	325,155
1844	24,702	Figures of 1843 are repeated.					715	—	—	7,703	18,270	444,318	374,876
1845							1,038	21,086	780,479	19,450	31,480	454,146	448,232
1846							1,070	20,729	1,194,726	3,590	12,103	416,404	498,205
1847		1,555,833	4,190	38,861	14,534	25,689	1,245	24,688	839,438	4,508	6,496	440,619	518,987
1848		1,478,535	4,280	37,281	15,116	21,542	1,391	21,316	673,498	2,761	4,672	414,765	431,325
1849		1,524,174	4,383	34,977	12,893	25,618	1,398	18,844	695,583	786	2,265	409,306	418,424
1850		1,588,273	4,626	33,834	14,594	22,178	1,160	17,999	722,323	2,962	2,603	415,667	390,425
1851		1,643,458	4,642	39,119	12,603	24,269	1,414	22,961	805,641	939	1,695	429,701	409,124
1852		1,713,738	4,449	42,192	16,831	25,886	1,163	21,706	671,613	1,848	2,479	411,806	412,871
1853		1,675,054	4,394	40,533	14,305	28,616	1,273	23,711	657,405	2,200	3,324	412,835	386,519
1854		1,710,124	4,282	40,858	15,186	51,082	1,579	22,114	738,348	8,209	9,927	408,041	393,268
1855		1,625,960	3,699	37,253	18,635	40,542	1,374	21,906	766,717	7,286	16,410	476,273	405,610

NOTE.—The figures under the heads Population, Births, Marriages, Deaths (exclusive of those for 1871 and 1881, when a census was taken), schools, cultivation, are only approximative, the registration of deaths is compulsory, registration of births is optional.

Statistical View of the Progress of Ceylon from the Year 1821 to 1881 inclusive—*continued.*

Year	Total Tonnage of Shipping entered and cleared.						Imports.			Exports.		
	From and to United Kingdom.	From and to other Countries	Total.	British, belonging to		Foreign.	From the United Kingdom.	From other Countries.	Total.	To the United Kingdom.	To other Countries.	Total.
				United Kingdom.	The Colonies.							
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	£	£	£	£	£	£
1821 - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1822 - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1823 - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1824 - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1825 - -	5,363	86,322	91,685	—	—	—	23,440	272,861	296,301	97,537	126,851	224,388
1826 - -	8,134	74,587	82,721	—	—	—	21,263	288,486	309,749	177,513	85,430	262,943
1827 - -	6,518	132,191	138,709	—	—	—	16,800	326,510	343,310	233,452	84,242	317,694
1828 - -	12,307	96,389	108,696	—	—	—	29,984	293,949	323,933	149,551	96,433	245,984
1829 - -	9,726	124,555	134,281	—	—	—	39,290	300,911	340,201	196,558	128,226	324,784
1830 - -	7,780	139,137	146,917	—	—	—	40,777	308,805	349,582	168,576	106,235	274,811
1831 - -	5,076	116,591	121,667	—	—	—	28,560	254,429	282,989	59,903	92,391	152,294
1832 - -	9,371	130,042	139,413	—	—	—	47,792	303,432	351,224	98,527	62,062	160,589
1833 - -	12,369	121,572	133,941	—	—	—	60,813	260,078	320,891	42,403	90,127	132,530
1834 - -	7,098	146,412	153,510	—	—	—	71,076	301,650	372,726	76,989	68,845	145,834
1835 - -	10,421	134,761	145,182	—	—	—	69,997	282,079	352,076	79,596	119,672	199,268
1836 - -	14,515	125,180	139,695	—	—	—	93,258	317,909	411,167	228,501	106,018	334,519
1837 - -	19,366	136,564	155,930	—	—	—	168,585	427,303	595,888	191,583	135,277	326,860
1838 - -	11,734	180,225	191,959	—	—	—	101,358	446,143	547,501	177,074	115,241	292,315
1839 - -	14,699	191,305	206,004	—	—	—	152,895	509,025	661,920	228,391	147,217	375,608
1840 - -	13,903	193,117	207,020	—	—	—	126,794	606,719	733,513	297,146	112,801	409,947
1841 - -	18,625	200,168	218,793	—	—	—	183,161	496,509	679,670	253,870	114,513	368,383
1842 - -	26,791	228,228	255,019	—	—	—	206,365	588,393	794,758	339,707	123,738	463,445
1843 - -	—	—	280,475	—	—	—	—	—	1,034,532	—	—	421,083
1844 - -	—	—	332,081	—	—	—	—	—	1,367,504	—	—	532,367
1845 - -	36,943	349,236	386,179	—	—	—	310,480	1,184,647	1,495,127	440,328	142,772	583,100
1846 - -	42,956	380,414	423,370	—	—	—	302,192	1,070,510	1,372,702	399,156	280,130	679,286
1847 - -	51,545	406,191	457,736	—	—	—	281,056	1,140,731	1,421,787	563,360	397,757	961,117
1848 - -	51,393	382,270	433,663	—	—	—	205,050	1,030,394	1,235,444	493,167	955,734	1,448,901
1849 - -	51,486	415,485	466,971	—	—	—	231,387	1,116,162	1,347,549	695,734	510,415	1,206,149
1850 - -	53,561	437,101	490,662	—	—	—	266,574	1,222,104	1,488,678	729,525	517,431	1,246,956
1851 - -	49,988	454,353	504,341	—	—	—	254,012	1,744,439	1,998,451	777,844	1,028,033	1,805,877
1852 - -	59,890	476,927	536,817	—	—	—	246,438	1,395,731	1,642,169	704,293	646,376	1,350,669
1853 - -	94,429	547,803	642,232	—	—	—	365,596	3,161,586	3,527,182	818,186	2,443,379	3,261,565*
1854 - -	90,252	555,714	645,966	—	—	—	417,219	2,180,107	2,597,326	962,572	1,282,716	2,245,288
1855 - -	66,192	568,290	634,482	261,590	331,450	41,442	448,495	1,939,696	2,388,191	1,015,074	959,703	1,974,777

* The increase in imports and exports during 1853 is chiefly owing to a larger importation of specie than usual.

Statistical View of the Progress of Ceylon from the Year 1821 to 1881 inclusive—*continued.*

Year.	Area in square miles.	Population.	Military.	Births.	Marriages.	Deaths.	Schools.		Estimated Number of Acres under cultivation.	Land Sales.		Revenue.	Expenditure.
							Schools.	Number of Scholars.		Extent.	Amount realized, including Fees.		
									Acres.	Acres.	£	£	£
1856 - -		1,697,356	3,623	41,611	14,766	30,730	1,387	23,348	771,170	11,656	22,805	504,174	457,137
1857 - -		1,727,964	3,695	44,046	15,612	26,681	1,315	23,474	736,026	19,795	37,027	578,028	535,804
1858 - -		1,759,528	3,840	45,826	16,440	31,113	1,183	24,722	Figs. of 1857 repeated	15,752	33,425	654,961	[1]594,333
1859 - -		1,791,272	3,643	43,767	22,022	28,534	1,194	25,254	813,640	23,447	38,589	747,037	[2]698,268
1860 - -		1,876,467	3,699	50,663	22,391	37,718	1,269	28,951	927,581	33,660	51,628	767,100	[3]705,440
1861 - -		1,919,487	3,290	46,751	18,310	37,480	1,111	27,914	810,153	28,329	44,166	751,997	[4]635,230
1862 - -		2,079,881	3,138	48,602	19,518	33,652	1,237	25,408	1,567,974	25,302	45,300	759,135	[5]626,654
1863 - -		2,342,098	2,946	48,589	23,581	30,024	920	31,528	1,575,337	32,567	72,811	952,790	[6]738,194
1864 - -		2,051,109	2,981	45,713	18,542	39,997	907	29,065	1,580,078	34,122	76,567	867,728	[7]843,292
1865 - -		2,049,728	2,738	45,056	16,835	30,328	798	26,763	1,651,963	41,150	68,276	978,492	[8]838,193
1866 - -		2,088,027	2,235	48,223	18,921	39,125	698	25,147	1,397,008	45,546	72,021	962,873	[9]917,669
1867 - -		2,093,777	2,410	42,788	24,433	44,224	874	33,379	1,550,664	44,019	45,257	969,936	[10]927,932
1868 - -	24,702	2,081,395	2,467	55,058	14,346	56,138	716	26,807	1,532,710	24,492	38,514	925,266	[11]974,950
1869 - -		2,105,288	2,408	54,281	17,205	46,801	915	34,617	1,424,069	35,823	57,964	946,495	[12]881,373
1870 - -		2,128,884	2,116	63,111	17,150	40,230	978	41,490	1,526,583	29,560	57,206	1,091,606	[13]1,026,871
1871 - -		2,405,287	—	68,856	11,178	46,803	1,421	47,068	1,402,556	25,227	61,331	1,121,679	[14]1,064,184
1872 - -		Figs. of 1871 repeated	2,617	69,573	9,605	53,337	1,302	54,650	1,419,459	19,829	69,563	1,174,698	[15]1,062,993
1873 - -		2,323,760	1,456	68,605	22,458	46,732	1,424	66,424	‡1,253,702	21,656	103,089	1,290,918	[16]1,176,258
1874 - -		2,418,741	1,365	73,062	23,953	49,754	1,458	66,385	‡1,550,901	32,089	100,040	1,241,558	[17]1,110,180
1875 - -		2,459,542	1,716	67,285	13,837	53,363	1,570	73,020	1,260,230	17,609	59,974	1,354,123	[18]1,220,180
1876 - -		2,556,777	1,611	73,118	13,690	59,446	1,725	73,789	1,300,445	25,632	104,959	1,375,888	[19]1,276,930
1877 - -		2,755,557	1,621	49,779*	17,798*	62,124*	1,696	69,463†	—	28,543	132,245	1,596,205	[20]1,437,266
1878 - -		2,606,930	1,458	62,639	12,635	71,211	1,716	77,949	—	30,975	125,167	1,543,321	[21]1,448,497
1879 - -		2,558,488	1,256	69,226	10,394	58,018	2,095	85,868	2,345,118	26,738	67,969	1,382,688	[22]1,376,985
1880 - -		2,638,540	1,261	74,517	12,949	49,510	1,901	90,234	2,279,835	31,619	61,111	1,298,355	[23]1,337,295
1881 - -		2,758,529	1,226	74,794	12,075	75,012	2,041	97,628	2,506,399	26,818	40,749	1,283,108	[24]1,268,743

* Exclusive of the Western Province.

† This does not include the scholars under the Roman Catholic Mission.

‡ Exclusive of the estimated average of cultivated land in the district of Kégalla, Western Province.

[1] This is exclusive of an expenditure of 40,256*l.* charged against the surplus revenue of former years.
[2] Do. 53,826*l.* Do.
[3] Do. 78,425*l.* Do.
[4] Do. 19,759*l.* Do.
[5] Do. 3,484*l.* Do.
[6] Do. 120*l.* Do.
[7] Do. 250,000*l.* Do.

[8] This is exclusive of an expenditure of 28,162*l.* charged on balances.
[9] Do. 40,332*l.* Do.
[10] Do. 96,393*l.* charged against surplus funds and balances.
[11] Do. 79,021*l.* Do.
[12] Do. 79,431*l.* Do.
[13] Do. 21,475*l.* Do.

[14] This is exclusive of an expenditure of 61,139*l.* charged against surplus funds and balances.
[15] Do. 122,567*l.* Do.
[16] Do. 63,729*l.* Do.
[17] Do. 55,300*l.* Do.
[18] Do. 168,674*l.* Do.
[19] Do. 84,566*l.* Do.
[20] Do. 196,702*l.* Do.

[21] This is exclusive of an expenditure of 124,642*l.* charged against balances.
[22] Do. 30,945*l.* Do.
[23] Do. 20,021*l.* charged against surplus funds and balances.
[24] Do. 41,770*l.* Do.

Statistical View of the Progress of Ceylon from the Year 1821 to 1881 inclusive—*continued.*

Year.	Total Tonnage of Shipping entered and cleared.						Imports.			Exports.		
	From and to United Kingdom.	From and to other Countries.	Total.	British, belonging to		Foreign.	From the United Kingdom.	From other Countries.	Total.	To the United Kingdom.	To other Countries.	Total.
				United Kingdom.	The Colonies.							
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	£	£	£	£	£	£
1856 - -	61,988	619,083	681,071	270,560	364,857	45,654	537,934	2,176,631	2,714,565	872,179	791,433	1,663,612
1857 - -	103,738	772,825	876,563	424,183	385,671	66,709	631,368	2,475,290	3,106,664	1,348,614	1,239,846	2,588,460
1858 - -	119,669	796,480	916,149	468,495	369,129	78,525	868,094	2,576,795	3,444,889	1,129,553	1,199,238	2,328,791
1859 - -	76,583	704,809	781,392	373,957	335,564	71,871	938,491	2,535,996	3,474,487	1,434,820	1,089,932	2,524,752
1860 - -	101,021	689,228	790,249	372,942	356,083	61,224	1,043,052	2,508,187	3,551,239	1,638,994	911,592	2,550,586
1861 - -	73,866	763,355	837,221	364,640	394,425	78,156	801,491	2,862,259	3,663,750	1,724,740	981,467	2,706,207
1862 - -	92,911	796,081	888,992	462,295	361,566	65,131	836,319	3,406,820	4,243,139	1,703,574	790,546	2,494,120
1863 - -	125,672	942,642	1,068,314	517,158	403,039	148,117	1,011,995	4,421,811	5,433,806	2,407,578	1,179,656	3,587,234
1864 - -	109,839	960,556	1,070,395	513,153	427,926	129,316	1,651,587	3,875,377	5,526,964	2,015,326	1,096,942	3,112,268
1865 - -	122,842	1,027,998	1,150,840	605,575	419,041	126,224	904,255	4,117,924	5,022,179	2,420,056	1,145,101	3,565,157
1866 - -	115,456	1,066,869	1,182,325	578,576	454,352	149,397	1,390,686	3,570,375	4,961,061	2,385,126	1,201,327	3,586,453
1867 - -	126,754	1,070,011	1,196,765	579,090	476,606	141,069	1,350,312	3,154,027	4,504,339	2,556,188	974,036	3,530,224
1868 - -	163,999	1,082,615	1,246,614	656,812	414,544	175,258	1,264,470	3,138,707	4,403,177	2,793,313	993,409	3,786,722
1869 - -	112,971	1,100,855	1,213,826	697,987	369,204	146,635	1,175,758	3,459,265	4,635,023	2,652,781	978,284	3,631,065
1870 - -	154,963	1,268,982	1,423,945	779,777	445,565	198,603	1,531,491	3,102,806	4,634,297	2,907,146	896,585	3,803,731
1871 - -	268,182	1,370,215	1,638,397	775,465	671,800	191,132	1,462,050	3,335,902	4,797,952	2,633,169	1,001,684	3,634,853
1872 - -	263,369	1,552,818	1,816,187	707,550	870,147	238,490	1,489,359	3,680,165	5,169,524	2,139,690	999,370	3,139,060
1873 - -	280,140	1,714,254	1,994,394	1,157,848	556,395	280,151	1,534,852	4,039,506	5,574,538	4,056,138	1,383,453	5,439,591
1874 - -	287,785	1,727,373	2,015,158	1,158,294	536,146	320,718	1,498,956	3,837,163	5,336,119	2,989,237	1,405,190	4,394,427
1875 - -	361,109	1,855,294	2,216,403	1,292,906	576,550	346,947	1,427,115	3,944,125	5,361,240	3,709,012	1,666,398	5,375,410
1876 - -	372,097	1,952,427	2,324,524	1,444,278	557,570	322,676	1,642,021	3,920,863	5,562,884	2,979,254	1,530,341	4,509,595
1877 - -	399,685	2,102,959	2,502,644	1,431,591	724,618	346,435	1,611,738	4,274,232	5,885,970	4,251,279	1,478,772	5,730,051
1878 - -	361,864	2,198,138	2,560,002	1,627,989	550,161	381,852	1,267,898	3,713,019	4,980,917	3,115,059	1,323,078	4,438,137
1879 - -	381,772	2,227,959	2,609,731	1,351,135	843,110	415,486	1,149,058	3,880,377	5,029,435	3,635,479	1,325,459	4,960,938
1880 - -	457,029	2,449,739	2,906,768	1,901,139	563,135	442,494	1,497,139	3,516,341	5,013,480	3,250,228	1,492,386	4,742,614
1881 - -	504,338	2,565,790	3,070,128	2,087,213	456,532	526,383	1,199,510	3,218,148	4,417,658	2,018,738	1,373,946	3,392,684

NOTE.—The great difference in value of exports for 1873, as compared with 1871 and 1872, arises from the average value of coffee during 1873 in the local market previous to shipment being taken at 4*l.* 10*s.* per cwt. for plantation and 4*l.* per cwt. for native, instead of 2*l.* 14*s.* and 2*l.* as heretofore.

The money figures from 1874 have been converted from rupees to pounds sterling at 1*s.* 10½*d.* to the rupee. Prior to 1874 at 2*s.* to the rupee.

HELIGOLAND.

HELIGOLAND.

No. 17.

Governor J. T. N. O'BRIEN, C.M.G., to the Right Hon. the EARL OF KIMBERLEY.

(Extract.) Heligoland, March 7.

The recent census enables me to submit a complete summary of our population which I have classified.

1st. Children up to 14, that being the age of confirmation in the Lutheran Church, till which period, by the laws of the Island, all children are compelled to attend school and therefore can perform no work.

2nd. Adults up to 55.

3rd. Old people above that age, which age I have fixed, as the life of a fisherman is such that few after that period are fit to gain a full livehood by this means.

—	Male.	Female.
Children up to 14 - - -	305	286
Adults - - - -	468	592
Old people - - - -	158	192
	931	1,070

Trade and Occupations.	No.	Let Lodgings.
Officials - - - -	30	10
Lodging-house keepers - -	79	—
Publicans - - - -	26	14
Fishermen of all kinds - -	307	24
Tradespeople - - -	74	23
Artizans - - - -	72	14
Workmen, day labourers - -	7	—
Servants, domestic - - -	26	—

When taken from the Danes, the management of local affairs was left to a great extent to the people, while all officials were salaried by that country. Fishing was then as now one of the sources of employment, while wrecking and pilotage and (during the French occupation of Germany 1800–13) smuggling brought to the Islanders the largest profits, the improvements in navigation,

the introduction of steam, and above all, the establishment of lighthouses, with later on that especially of fog signals has fortunately reduced wrecks to a minimum, while the German pilots not only for the reasons given in paragraph 27, can equip and go to sea in larger vessels, hence can get more ships, have greater facilities afforded them by their fellow countrymen in the rivers Elbe and Weser, so that the gains of Heligoland pilots are now almost nil.

It should not be forgotten that of 91 vessels stranded since 1865 on our shores, 35, and these some of the largest, have been English; that in 1878 (*vide* Statesman's Year Book for 1880) the aggregate British tonnage entering the two principal adjacent German ports (leaving out the iron, coal, or machinery forwarded to Wilhelmshaven or the English goods sent to other parts of the coast) amounted to as follows :—

Inward.

	Tons.
Hamburg - - - -	1,244,768
Bremen - - - -	181,783
Total - -	1,462,551

Outward.

	Tons.
Hamburg - - - -	767,544
Bremen - - - -	118,098
Total - - -	885,642

or 2,312,193 tons of English shipping exposed to the dangers of this Island, such as formerly existed, and which now are most fortunately considerably reduced, to the benefit of British shipping but to the detriment of the revenue of the Colony.

On the other hand I fear retrenchment under the head of Public Works to stave off the encroachment of the sea at Sandy Island and on the shores of our lower beach can only mean the postponement to the detriment of the best interests of the Colony of absolutely required works of preservation and of urgent repairs.

A debt of 5,000*l.* and an annual loss of 200*l.* though inappreciable to England is to Heligoland a crushing burden, if however the former could be cleared off and the latter restored then by the strictest economy the Island might be placed on a satisfactory footing, although the want of a harbour must ever prevent the possibility of progression.

HELIGOLAND.

No. 18.

Governor J. T. N. O'Brien, C.M.G., to the Right Hon. the Earl of Kimberley.

My Lord, Heligoland, March 13, 1882.

I beg to forward the Blue Book Returns for 1881, which appear to present no sufficient difference from those of previous years to need any special comment.

2. Progression in this small Colony at present seems impossible, its only industry capable of expansion, fishing, being at a stand-still for want of a harbour for boats.

3. The only occurrence during the year calling for any special observation is the failure of the contractor to fulfil his engagement (a private one) with our fishermen, this, if loss of time be included, entailed a loss of some 40,000 marks on the Heligolanders, who may recover 25,000 marks should they succeed before the German Courts in getting the security money in deposit in Berlin.

4. The visiting season was a fair one.

5. Having entered so fully into the position of the Colony in my Despatch of the 7th instant,* I have nothing further to add to the information contained in these returns.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. (Signed) J. T. N. O'Brien,
The Earl of Kimberley, Governor.
&c. &c.

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* No. 17.

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PAPERS

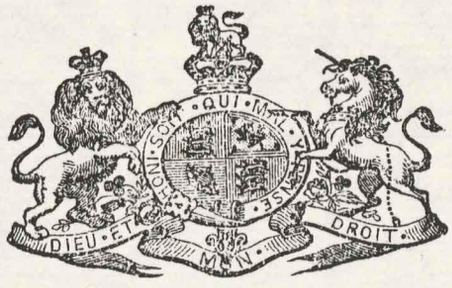
RELATING TO

HER MAJESTY'S COLONIAL POSSESSIONS.

REPORTS FOR 1880, 1881, AND 1882.

(*In continuation of* [C.–3388.] *of August* 1882.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
June 1883.



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1883.

[C.—3642.]

TABLE OF CONTENTS.

No. in Series.	COLONY.	Year.	Page.
1	Fiji (Governor's speech on leaving the Colony)	1880	3
2	Victoria - - - - -	1881	19
3	Newfoundland - - - -	„	72
4	Bahamas - - - - -	„	75
5	Dominica - - - - -	„	91
6	Montserrat - - - - -	„	99
7	Virgin Islands - - - -	„	102
8	St. Kitts - - - - -	„	105
9	Gold Coast - - - - -	„	106
10	Gambia - - - - -	„	121
11	Lagos - - - - -	„	135
12	Straits Settlements - - -	„	146
13	„ „ (Penang) - -	„	170
14	„ „ (Malacca) - -	„	193
15	Mauritius - - - - -	„	215
16	Seychelles - - - - -	„	225
17	Rodrigues - - - - -	„	229
18	Hong Kong - - - - -	„	240
19	Labuan - - - - -	„	248
20	Heligoland - - - -	1882	265

FIJI.

No. 1.

Governor the Hon. Sir A. H. Gordon, G.C.M.G., to the Right Hon. the Earl of Kimberley.

My Lord, Mua Levu, Fiji, November 15, 1880.

I have the honour to enclose for your Lordship's information the copy of a speech made by me, in view of my approaching departure from Fiji, at a meeting of planters and other residents in the Colony on the 1st instant.

2. My main object in this speech was not to recapitulate the acts of my own administration, but to smooth the way for my successor by pointing out how little real ground there was for dissatisfaction with the policy which had been pursued, and how in fact it was altogether due, consciously or unconsciously, to a misapprehension of a single point,—the rights and position of the native race.

I have, &c.
(Signed) Arthur Gordon.

The Right Hon.
The Secretary of State for the Colonies,
&c &c. &c.

Address delivered by His Excellency the Governor to the Meeting assembled at Nasova on Monday the 1st instant.

One of my first acts on assuming the Government of this Colony was to request those most concerned in its welfare to meet me here. I did so in order to communicate to them personally information which it might be of interest to them to receive, to express my own views, and to request answers to questions submitted by me to their consideration. On several subsequent occasions I have done the same. It is therefore only natural that I should now seek a similar opportunity publicly to announce my approaching departure, and as publicly to express my acknowledgments to those who have aided me in the discharge of my duties here.

You are all aware that the Queen has been pleased to appoint me Governor of New Zealand, and that I shall shortly leave Levuka for that Colony. Her Majesty has, at the same time, been pleased to direct that I should retain so much of the control of affairs in Fiji as distance and my other duties will permit, and I shall accordingly, whilst I remain Governor of New Zealand, pay an annual visit to this Colony, and still exercise a supervision over some important branches of its administration.

It would not, I think, be consistent with good taste were I at this time to recapitulate in detail the legislative measures passed

FIJI.

at my instigation, or the steps taken by the Executive Government under my direction, to promote the progress of the Colony during the last five years; still less to dwell on what has been achieved. Were I to do so I could with difficulty escape the charge of self-laudation; and, indeed, though it would be affectation to profess unconsciousness that much that is useful and important has been done, I am still more sensible how very much there yet remains to do. I am, moreover, so strongly alive to the fact that I have not always borne in mind, as perhaps some others might have done in my place, how short the time in which I had to work was, and that I have allowed opportunities to escape unused, and moments, all of which should have been devoted to the service of the Colony, to pass by unheeded, that I cannot be at all inclined to boast.

It may, however, I think, be permitted to me to point out that what were represented by you in 1875 as the six great wants of the Colony have all been in a great measure supplied, and that the sinister prognostications which the measures of the Government have from time to time called forth have in no case been realised.

Our chief wants at the time of my arrival here were stated, and truly stated, to be capital, labour, means of communication with the outer world, the establishment of judicial tribunals, the foundation of educational institutions, and, above all, an increased revenue.

Although (fortunately, as I think), there has been no sudden rush of speculative investors into the Colony, capital has been already introduced, to a far larger extent than most people are aware, and the results of its introduction will, during the next two years, be of a very marked character.

We have an abundant supply of labour, obtained at a cheaper rate than any other free labour in the world.

Three steamers now ply regularly between this port and those of Sydney, Auckland, and Melbourne, while two seagoing steamers are employed in interinsular communication, and several small ones in private hands keep up a constant communication with Suva and the Rewa.

Our judicial system has been excellently framed, and is administered by a Judge of higher standing and repute than a young Colony is often able to obtain.

Thanks to Ordinances introduced by that Judge, we have now a good public school in Levuka, and have provided for the creation of industrial schools for natives in another part of the group.

The revenue in 1875 was but 16,000*l.* Last year it exceeded 67,000*l.*, and is estimated for the present year at over 80,000*l.*, whilst the Customs revenue during the same period has increased from 8,000*l.* to 22,000*l.*

And not only have the wants then felt been met, but progress has been made in every direction; progress which renders it difficult to recall the actual state of things existing in 1875. We now grumble at what we should then have thought a fabulous improvement, and it is well we should do so, for such is the condition of the law of progress; but it is not the less true that familiarity with objects tends to efface the memory of what

preceded them, and thus renders it difficult to all, and impossible to many, accurately to recall the past.

So far as any part of this improvement is due to the actions and measures of the Government, I need not say that it is not to my own unassisted efforts it is to be attributed. Nothing that has been done here could have been done at all had I not had round me a number of men able and willing to serve the Colony and to share my labours.

Now, in this respect, small colonies usually stand at a great disadvantage. They have not in themselves any large store of able men among whom to choose, nor have they the means of attracting others from interest. I have been most peculiarly fortunate both in finding on the spot men of exceptional ability, and in drawing around me fellow labourers of whose zeal and activity I cannot speak too highly.

In all that concerns Legislative business I owe special thanks to the Chief Justice for most efficient aid, not only in the preparation and conduct of the numerous Ordinances which have been adopted by the Legislature, but also for the authorship of that valuable series of enactments for the improvement of different branches of the law which have given to our Statute Book a value and a character distinctively its own.

When I turn to Executive Administration I must first repeat the acknowledgements I made two years ago, when leaving for England, to the ex-King Cakobau. Had he shown any repining after his lost power, had he even been sullen and indifferent under his altered circumstances, had he listened to the whispers of those—whites, alas, not natives,—who have vainly endeavoured to make him discontented, the work of the Government might have been most seriously embarrassed. But this has never in the slightest degree been the case. He has never once, for a moment, varied in his cordial confidence and perfect content. I have never expressed a wish which he has not complied with and even been eager to anticipate. The whole of his vast influence has been invariably exerted in furtherance of the objects of the Government, and his own desires and opinions have at all times been freely communicated to me without the least reserve. I say, again, my own thanks, the thanks of the colony and those of the Crown, are eminently due to the Vunivalu.

I have every reason to be satisfied with the support and aid I have received, with very few exceptions, from all officers of the Government, but it is only my duty specially to recognise the invaluable assistance I have received from the Colonial Secretary, and to acknowledge his great abilities and perfect tact. Political prophecies are unsafe, but I cannot think that the Colonial Secretaryship of Fiji is the most important post he will fill, or the C.M.G., he has so worthily won, the highest distinction he will attain.

Nor can I deny myself the pleasure of publicly acknowledging the deep debt of gratitude I owe to the Receiver-General. As indefatigable as he is able, ever ready to go anywhere or to do anything he is called on to do, working late and early, and bringing

FIJI.

to bear on all subjects submitted to him the keenest shrewdness and the truest public spirit, I should have felt myself bound to him by obligations I am unable to repay, even had he not more thoroughly understood and more fully shared than perhaps any other man in the Colony my views and objects of public policy.

I believe that the unremitting and successful efforts of the Acting Agent-General of Immigration are appreciated by all the community, but I am not so sure that the less conspicuous but most useful labours of the Registrar-General are everywhere valued as they deserve to be. The Colony is, I think, fortunate to have in that position a man so remarkably well fitted for the discharge of its duties.

Of one other head of a department I must say something. I mean the Native Commissioner, my sense of the value of whose services only increases as I know better how to appreciate them. I have not always agreed with him on all points of native policy, but I think it only just to him thus publicly to declare that I now perceive that in almost every such instance he was right and I was wrong, and that every succeeding month enables me to estimate more justly his almost unerring instinct in the conduct of all native affairs. He has just been exposed to an ordeal, which I trust he will forgive my thus publicly mentioning, for I am sure it will gain him the sympathy of all honourable and right-minded men, and expose the straits to which those who desire to injure him are reduced, and the meanness of the devices to which they are willing to descend. Some of the busybodies in our midst, who, not having much else to do, devote themselves to that employment which is proverbially found for idle hands, and spend all such half crazed ingenuity as they possess in the invention and circulation of tales injurious to the Government, have thought fit to write letters to various other colonies, to persons who have had business relations with Mr. Wilkinson, and might be supposed to owe him any grudge, such as discharged overseers, former partners, and others, to ask for information as to any facts which might serve to prejudice his character. I think he is to be congratulated that after twenty years' residence in the Colony his career should present so few assailable incidents that those who desire to undermine his influence and deprive him of his post should be compelled to resort, and that unsuccessfully, to means so base, if they would fish out of the transactions of so many years some incident which might be so distorted as to wear an ugly look.

To that hardworked and ill-paid body, the magistracy of the Colony, I wish to make especial acknowledgments and to express my sense of the rare qualifications of Mr. Carew, the Commissioner in Colo, for the difficult function he performs. Of the subordinate members of the Government service it is impossible for me to speak more than generally. They have, as a whole, performed their duties to my satisfaction. Three offices come more especially under my notice; the Colonial Secretary's Office, the Lands' Office, and the Native Office, and I wish to express my special sense of the services in them of Mr. Langford, Mr. Cocks, and Mr. Gordon.

I have now made my announcement, and thanked my official fellow-labourers, but it would ill-become me were I not also to thank the people of Fiji.

The great mass of the people, that is to say, the native population, are, I believe, well aware that I have their interests at heart, that they have been safe from high-handed injustice, and might trust to the action of the Government. I have had ample opportunity for testing the prevalence of this feeling, in spite of unremitting and unscrupulous efforts to foment discontent, utterly regardless of consequences, so that the desired object of raising opposition to the Government is obtained.

But my thanks are no less due to the great body of the settlers, who have not only at all times treated me with courtesy, which I might perhaps anticipate, but have displayed a moderation, reasonableness, and good temper for which I had hardly ventured to look.

Before I came out here I stated publicly that I had not the very smallest hope of obtaining popularity. There are many reasons why a Governor, if he possesses the authority of the Governor of a Crown Colony, cannot, if he does his duty, possibly be popular. He must offend, turn by turn, many selfish interests. He must incur the hate of dismissed and disappointed men. He is also pretty sure to make some mistakes, and to suffer from their consequences. But, on the whole, I have been surprised that a policy which is distasteful to many should not have excited more personal ill-will. It is true that there are some very few persons whose interests have been touched or vanity wounded, who having, as I have already said, little else to do, assail me with a violence and personality which is peculiar to the politics of extremely small societies. But the conduct of these men is generally and emphatically disapproved, and, personally, I have every reason to be grateful to all those with whom I have held intercourse during my stay here; however, it is not the less true that towards the policy of the Government the attitude of the settlers generally has been one rather of acquiescence than approval, and that it is very commonly looked on as unfavourable to the interests of colonists, and therefore calling for alteration.

Laying aside all personal questions, it may be not unprofitable for a few moments to consider what are the grounds for such sentiments, and how far there is any justification for their maintenance.

To some, no doubt, the contemplated establishment of the seat of Government at Suva has been a cause of grave offence.

This is no part of my general policy of government, which would be just as easily worked from Levuka as from Suva, and which would not be in the least degree affected by the reversal of the decision given. It is a matter in which I have no personal preference. I could have wished for many reasons that I had found myself able to advocate the claims of Levuka. But when required to record my opinion, and form a deliberate judgment on the relative suitability of the two sites, I could not, as an honest man, express any other view than that which facts forced me to adopt.

Fiji.

So long ago as 1861, General Smythe, in his report upon Fiji, pointed out that Levuka owed its existence as a place of resort for Europeans to accidental political causes only, and not to any natural advantages. He added, that the "locality best "adapted in Fiji for a white settlement" was "the country round "the harbour of Suva in Viti Levu, the largest of the islands. "It is rich, level, and well watered. The harbour is perhaps "the best in the group. It is easy of access, can be entered and "quitted with all the prevailing winds, and has communication "within the reef with a large extent of coast." Dr. Seeman (Mission to Viti), who agreed with General Smythe on hardly any other conceivable subject, fully concurred in this opinion.

On my arrival here in 1875, the locality at which the seat of Government was to be established was one of the first questions to which, in compliance with Lord Carnarvon's instructions, my attention was directed. I consulted all the authorities on the spot most competent to form an opinion, including the late Colonel Pratt, then Surveyor General, the three Government Medical Officers, Lieut. Dawson, R.N., in charge of the Hydrographic Survey, and others. I found it to be their unanimous opinion that Levuka was altogether unfit for the purpose, and that Suva was, on the whole, the locality best suited for it. In this opinion everyone, or almost everyone, who has since approached the question without previous bias from pecuniary interest or local prejudice, has concurred; the only exception, so far as I am aware, being that of the late Commodore Goodenough, who, though not thinking Levuka at all a suitable place for a capital, imagined Suva Bay to be full of shoals and dangers, an apprehension which would have been wholly dissipated had he lived to see the completion of Lieut. Dawson's careful survey of that harbour.

The area available for building purposes at Suva is practically unlimited, but if we consider it as consisting of the 1,500 acres immediately adjoining the ground given to the Crown by Messrs. James McEwan and Co., and including that block, we shall find that of this tract about 1,200 acres belong to the Crown, and that there is an almost indefinite capacity for the further extension of the site, whilst at Levuka thirty or forty acres (the whole of which, except rather less than an acre, is already private property) is the utmost extent which could be built over, and that without the possibility of spreading outwards in any direction.

We shall also find that the site of Suva is a gently rising promontory on which streets can easily be laid out, and which is swept over by every breeze, from whatever quarter it may blow. On the other hand Levuka is walled round by high cliffs of black rock, reflecting the sun, and shutting out all free currents of airs, except from the east. If the wind blows from the north or west, Levuka is, to use Colonel Pratt's phrase, "airless."

The drainage of Suva will, from the formation of the ground, be peculiarly easy, and being commenced on a regular system, contemporaneously with the foundation of the town, can be

cheaply executed. On the other hand, any attempt to provide for the drainage of Levuka presents, as is shown in the reports of Colonel Pratt and Dr. McGregor, almost insuperable difficulties, and must involve very great expense.

There was at first some doubt as to the sufficiency of the water supply at Suva. It is now found to be very abundant, and of the very best possible quality. It can also be obtained at moderate expense. At Levuka a sufficient supply might also be obtained; but it is of less pure quality and the measures necessary to procure its safe storage and accumulation would be of a very costly character.

The harbour of Levuka is inferior to that of Suva, as has been amply shown by Lieutenant Dawson, R.N., who surveyed it, and who is now Assistant Hydrographer at the Admiralty.

The reclamation of lands at Levuka would, according to Colonel Pratt (a very competent authority), "be attended with every "objection which can exist to such a step." At Suva it presents not the slightest difficulty, and will be probably undertaken both by private parties and by the Government should any occasion for it arise.

The expense of erecting buildings for public offices at Levuka must be enormous, as every site would have to be purchased at exorbitant rates. At Suva plenty of suitable sites are in the hands of the Government, and the prices obtained by the sale of other lots which it is not desired to retain will go far to cover the expenses which may be incurred in building—expenses which, it cannot be too often repeated, must equally be incurred, whether the seat of Government is fixed at Suva or Levuka.

The outlay, which, during the next two years, must undoubtedly take place *somewhere* on public offices, would unquestionably exceed here any similar expenditure at Suva. If it were determined that Levuka should remain the seat of Government, it would be at once necessary to obtain land for the construction of Government offices,—to lay out streets of, at all events, moderate width, and to make provision for drainage. All this would involve an immense outlay, as not a building could be erected, or a street laid out, or a drain opened, without purchasing the land required for the purpose. The cost of the land for Government buildings would, of course, under any circumstances have to be paid for by the Crown, but it must also be pointed out that no considerable portion of the cost of other necessary works at Levuka could be defrayed by the inhabitants of the town themselves. They are too few in numbers to render it possible to impose such burthens on them, and the Colony at large would therefore be heavily taxed to meet the demands of half a dozen Levuka landholders.

At Suva, not only will no expenditure be needed to obtain the requisite sites, but the sale of the lots not needed for Government purposes will, I believe, go far to cover the expenditure which may be incurred in building, draining, and laying out streets. Even if this sanguine expectation be not realised, there can be no doubt whatever that to construct a town here would be a far more costly operation, and a far less satisfactory one when

FIJI.

completed, than the construction of one at Suva, and that the erection of Government offices at a place where the Crown, not only possesses land fit for the purpose, but much more land also, by the sale of which it can defray the expenses of building, must be a cheaper course than their erection at a place where the ground would have to be purchased at a great cost, and where the Government cannot obtain a penny by the sale of land, since it does not possess any.

The fear that the establishment of the capital at Suva will prove a greater source of expense than its establishment here may, therefore, be dismissed as altogether groundless, and indeed the exact opposite of fact.

Nor, though it will certainly *check* any rapid further ment of Levuka, do I think that the establishment of the Government offices at Suva will be attended by any material retrogression here. Until a port is opened at Savu Savu, which (and not Suva) is the really dangerous rival of Levuka, this place will remain the commercial centre of the eastern and northern portions of the group, and it is intended that sittings of the Supreme Court should continue to be held and Treasury payments continue to be made here, as well as at Suva.

Again, there has been a not unnatural disappointment among those whose claims to land have been disallowed, which has raised on their part feelings hostile to the Government. I have so recently and at such length discussed the mode in which land claims are dealt with that I will say nothing now on this head beyond repeating that unless it was desired that all claims sent in should be at once admitted, because they were made, and simply registered without investigation as to their merits or their justice, —(which for aught I know may be the wish of some people, and indeed seems to be so),—I cannot conceive an investigation carried out in a more liberal or indulgent spirit than has been that into the Land Titles of the Colony.

In other quarters it has been sought to create an impression that the Government has obstructed planters in obtaining labour. But this conclusion is one that has no sound premises to support it.

As regards the introduction of Polynesian labour nothing could have been more successful than the operations of the Government.

Since the 1st of January of this year up to the present date 2,040 immigrants have arrived in the Colony. Six vessels are still out. They are expected to return during the current month and to bring about 500 men.

Every requisition for Polynesian labour sent in for this year,—both of the original applications and the supplementary ones since made,—has been already met, and all the immigrants still expected to arrive must be employed by Government. The number of Polynesian immigrant labourers in the group will, before the end of the year, exceed 6,000. Of these over three hundred, whose term of service expired during the year, have renewed their engagements.

As regards Coolie labourers, whose introduction was so much deprecated, I may say that nearly all have now been engaged by

planters, and demands have been made to know when I intend to send for more. The Colonial Sugar Company which has just undertaken works on so large a scale is particularly anxious in pressing this point, and its officers, who have had experience which enables them properly to appreciate the value of Coolie labour, are sagacious enough to perceive that, whatever the present supply from Polynesia, it is to India that we must in the not remote future look as the source from which we are to derive the requisite amount of industrial immigration.

As regards Fijian labour, I have also a few words to say. One of the chief complaints made by those who are dissatisfied with the existing administration of affairs in Fiji is that undue restrictions have been imposed upon the engagement of labour, and upon employers seeking to obtain it.

The assertion, therefore, that upon the engagement and employment of labour, as it is understood in Europe and America, there is, in Fiji, absolutely no restriction whatsoever, may startle some persons. It may be deemed the enunciation of a paradox, or an evasive paltering with the ordinary sense of words, yet it is but the plain statement of a simple fact.

There is nothing whatever to prevent the hiring of a servant or labourer in any part of Fiji, or his continuing in the service of his employer for an unlimited time, if (as in Europe, or America) he is also free to leave such service after giving due warning.

It is only with regard to contracts of service for long periods,—contracts,—any breach of which has, by law, been made not a civil but a criminal offence,—and which surrender for the time the liberty of the servant entirely into the hands of his master,—that any restrictive legislation has been resorted to.

And where the employer and employed are residents in the same island or province, the restriction imposed is one of the very slightest description, consisting only in an obligation to enter into the engagement before the magistrate of the district.

In the case of labourers recruited from another island or province, the checks on abuse, as is obviously necessary, are somewhat greater.

In these cases, the engagement must be entered into before the magistrate of the district; and if the hirer be not himself a planter or manager, he must be a person licensed by the Government to recruit labour, and must possess authority from some planter or planters to engage a specified number of men on his or their behalf. The labourer engaging must also pay to the community he leaves 1*l.* in commutation of the loss that community suffers through his absence, when making up the tax at which it has already been assessed for the year. It has also been sought to prevent bribes being taken by chiefs for the supply of the services of their dependents, (or in other words their sale), and the conveyance of the recruited labourers on long voyages, in unsafe and overcrowded boats, is prohibited.

It seems hardly necessary to defend these provisions.

I have so lately dealt at length with the subject of Native taxation, and so fully answered the objections made to that

Fiji.

scheme, that on the general question I will say nothing except this:—that no doubt its working has diminished the gains—the too often illegitimate gains—of some small traders, and that it is therefore not wonderful that it should be unpopular among them. But an attempt has lately been made to show that the produce of the Colony is falling off under the influence of this system and that the consumption by natives of articles of import has also diminished through the same cause.

An accusation founded on the quiet assumption of the enormous blunder that the *produce* of the Colony in any one year and its *exports* during the same period are convertible terms—one and the same thing in fact—is not likely to carry any great weight or do any great damage, when carefully examined; but as it has been made by the President of the Chamber of Commerce, and, to some extent, I believe, endorsed by the gentlemen who form that Chamber, it may deserve a little more serious notice than would otherwise be the case. It is no doubt the fact that the value of the produce *actually exported* in 1879 was less than that of the exports of 1878. But the value of the produce *actually raised* in 1879, on the other hand, considerably exceeded that of the preceding year.

Owing to the derangement in the affairs of the firm of Goddefroy and Co., their agent in Fiji (who was the chief contractor for "Native tax produce") was disappointed by the non-arrival of vessels, and when the year closed he had in consequence an extremely large quantity of produce lying in store. Beyond what was held by this firm also, it is a certain fact that at the end of 1879 every store, hulk, and available place in Levuka was full of produce awaiting shipment. I may also add, in reference to a remark that shipping might also have been equally scarce in the previous year, that the reverse was the case. At the end of 1878, owing to the facility for shipment then presenting itself, the warehouses of Levuka were empty. No less than 80,000*l.* worth of produce was exported during the last quarter of that year.

The year 1879, therefore, in the matter of export suffered at both ends. There was no balance to carry forward from 1878, while a very large one was carried from it into 1880.

A comparison of the first quarter's exports during the years from 1876 to 1880 will represent more clearly the state of affairs.

Exports.—First quarter of.

1876.	1877.	1878.	1879.	1880.
£ 14,968	£ 29,704	£ 32,268	£ 29,228	£ 62,003

It is evident, therefore, that quite 30,000*l.* worth of produce more than usual was exported in the first quarter of this year, and

admitting that one fourth of this amount, or 7,500*l.*, should be deducted as representing the value of produce imported for re-exportation, even then, unless the accidental circumstance above stated is taken advantage of for the purpose of misrepresenting the progress of the Colony, the sum of 22,500*l.* must, for the purpose of fair comparison, be added to the 132,513*l.* given in the official returns, and the value of Colonial exports for 1879 assumed at not less than 155,013*l.*

Taking the total value of exports and imports for the four years, 1876–1879, as the criterion of our commercial progress, we find that during this brief period the imports have increased 47,406*l.* 18*s.* 2*d.* and the exports 88,080*l.* 7*s.* 9*d.* Thus:—

	1876.	1877.	1878.	1879.
	£ *s.* *d.*	£ *s.* *d.*	£ *s.* *d.*	£ *s.* *d.*
Imports -	94,805 13 3	132,985 12 5	136,607 15 1	142,212 11 5
Exports -	113,459 0 3	140,893 11 0	192,165 8 0	191,540 8 0
Total -	208,264 13 6	273,879 3 5	328,773 3 1	333,752 19 5

But misled by the strange fallacy that production and exportation are convertible terms, it has been sought to show that "the "only conclusion to be arrived at is that the quantity of produce "raised in 1879 was much less than it ought to have been;" and, adds the critic, "it is curious to notice that the greatest "increase occurred in the first year after annexation, and that "since then the increase has been diminishing year by year," and he then states, without any attempt at proof, that as the number of European planters has increased, the quantity of produce raised by them has also increased, and that the decrease in exports must have occurred in what the Fijian natives themselves produce.

This reference to the "curious" increase of exports in the first year of the annexation must, I think, be really meant to relate to the first year after the proclamation of the Royal Charter creating the Islands into a British Colony—namely, 1876, and not 1875, which the words would strictly designate. It is the first year in which a very appreciable increase actually took place, but in the following year—1877—the increase was still larger, so the statement is no way correct.

In touching, however, on the subject of the proportional increase of exports from the Colony, an admirable proof has most unintentionally been furnished of the beneficent effects of the just and sensible measure which it is sought to condemn without understanding it. For it is easy to show that the growth of produce under that system has not only in no way decreased, but, on the contrary, has increased, and that the proportions in the rate of such increase have the closest resemblance to, and a manifest bearing upon, the rates of annual increase of the total exports of the Colony.

FIJI.

The value of produce raised by natives disposed of by Government in connection with the Native Tax Scheme is as follows :—

Year.	Value.	Increase.	Per Cent.
	£	£	£
1876 - - -	8,685	—	—
1877 - - -	17,584	8,899	102
1878 - - -	20,888	3,004	18
1879 - - -	25,552	4,664	22

As the amount at which the natives were assessed was more closely reached, the annual increments in the amount of their production for this purpose necessarily became smaller. You will at once perceive that the greatest development of native production consequent upon the Native Taxation Scheme occurred in the year 1877, the year when, as has been so carefully pointed out, the gross exports of the Colony were increased at the rate of 41 per cent., and that the subsequent percentages bear a close relation to those of general exports. Nothing could more conclusively show the intimate connection between the value of native productions so misrepresented and depreciated and the gross value of the export trade of the Colony than the comparison thus invited. At the same time, I am prepared to admit that unless the Legislative Council should resolve that the taxes of the natives be increased annually 10 or 20 per cent. (which I trust they will never dream of doing), and the natives can bear the increased strain so placed upon them, the export trade of the Colony cannot advance with the "leaps and bounds" of the last few years.

Referring to imports, a lament has been raised that the annual rate of increase has not been regularly sustained, and that while the import of articles mostly consumed by Europeans has increased regularly every year, the merchandize used by natives has "sadly" decreased in quantity. For example, it is said "the "drapery imported in 1876 was valued at 28,902*l.*, and in 1877 at "45,199*l.*—this was an increase of nearly 60 per cent. In 1878 "the importation of drapery was only 34,645*l.*, whilst in 1879 "it was still less, being 32,430*l.* Another item of native con-"sumption is hardware. This shows a decrease of about 9 per "cent. last year."

The imports of 1879 here spoken of are those of Levuka alone, and no mention is here made of the fact that the imports of drapery at the port of Suva have increased as follows:—1876, 868*l.*; 1877, 892*l.*; 1878, 2,911*l.*; 1879, 3,654*l.*

The value of imported drapery in 1879 was not therefore 32,430*l.*, but 36,084*l.*, or comparing the total value of drapery imported at both ports during the year 1878–79, a decrease of a little over one thousand instead of somewhat over two thousand pounds, a decrease which might at any time be caused by the closing of a single store or a depreciation in the credit of even one importer.

Now these facts were either known to the President of the Chamber of Commerce, or they were not. If they were not known to him, I must be permitted to express my surprise that the Chamber should have placed at its head a man so ill acquainted with the most notorious business transactions of the last few years. If he was acquainted with them, I do not hesitate to say that he was bound to have stated them.

But the abnormal imports of 1876–77 are accounted for by facts which I will proceed to explain.

At the date of the cession of these Islands there were in the group no fewer than 5,800 Polynesian labourers. Of these people great numbers, though their term of service had expired, were wholly unpaid and left unable to return to their homes in consequence of the insolvency or poverty of their employers. Eventually in the course of 1876–1877 a large proportion of them were paid off and returned to their homes by the Crown, whilst some, after being paid, re-engaged with more solvent settlers, others had still to complete their term of service.

Thus, owing to one reason and another, which made dealing with an abnormal and most objectionable state of affairs delicate and difficult, it was not until 1876 and the following year that the great mass of these people were paid by the Government, and an accidental stimulus in consequence given to trade.

The payment of Polynesian labourers is always made in merchandise, and the experience of the Immigration Department during the last six years shows that seventy-five per cent. of such payments is taken in drapery and twenty-five per cent. in hardware and trifles.

Now the number of labourers paid off in this manner was as follows:—

Year 1876	-	1,829 natives	paid off
„ 1877	-	1,207 „	„
„ 1878	-	499 „	„
„ 1879	only	345	„

The following statement would represent in round figures the business represented by these payments:—

Year.	Drapery.	Hardware.	Total.
	£	£	£
1876 - - -	12,345	4,115	16,460
1877 - - -	8,157	2,715	10,872
1878 - - -	3,368	1,122	4,490
1879 - - -	2,328	776	3,104

From these calculations and facts it will be seen that the great demand for drapery in the years 1876 and 1877 was an exceptional and accidental one, patent to any person of common mercantile intelligence, and that arguments, based upon a trifling decline in the imports of Levuka in 1879, are utterly fallacious and illusory as applied to the system of native taxation. These remarks are as applicable to hardware as to drapery. So that, in fact, if the payments of labour crowded into the years 1876 and 1877 be deducted, there has been, not only no decrease, but a very large

Fiji.

increase in the amounts imported for general consumption. That the consumption of imported articles by the natives is rapidly augmenting is a fact which admits of no dispute whatever. I cannot close my remarks on this topic without expressing my very grave censure, which I am sure you will endorse, of the manipulation of commercial statistics for political purposes, regardless of the injury which may be done to the Colony beyond its bounds by gloomy representations, if only some discredit can be thereby thrown on the Executive Government. The accounts of the Colony should not be dealt with in a manner superficial or disingenuous, and which, were the mercantile transactions of a private firm the object of investigation, would entail the gravest reprobation.

But no doubt that which is at the root of all other dissatisfaction —that which intensifies every grievance and complaint on other subjects, and causes even what would otherwise be approved of to be regarded with hesitation and distrust—is the idea, more or less strongly felt, that the Government is not sufficiently active in the promotion and protection of the interests of white settlers, and regards the native population with too favourable an eye. Now, on this point it is well that there should be no illusion. It should always be remembered that this is emphatically not a white man's Colony, that the circumstances of its cession and existing facts alike forbid it being so. This is no conquest taken by the sword. This is no empty land just peopled by settlers of our own race. The Queen reigns here by virtue of a voluntary cession of their rights to her by the native rulers and owners of these Islands—a cession made, among other reasons, expressly for this: that those who ceded might be shielded from encroachment on the part of settlers which they felt themselves otherwise unable to resist; and it was with a full understanding of this, and with a determination to fulfil the obligations it imposed, that the Queen accepted the gift. With a population of more than 50 natives to one white—with vast masses of landed property in the hands of native proprietors—with a vigorous and powerful organization of native self-government in full operation—it is idle to think that the interests of some few hundred settlers are alone to be thought of, and not also those of the people of the land.

But there is nothing more difficult to overcome than the subtle and, unhappily, but too pernicious influences which contact between two races of different degrees of civilization, and different shades of colour, never fails to produce. Settlers in Fiji are neither better nor worse than Englishmen in similar positions in other parts of the world. "It is a terrible business,"—wrote Lord Elgin from Calcutta,—"It is a terrible business, this living "among inferior races. I have seldom, from man or woman, "since I came to the East, heard a sentence which was recon- "cilable with the hypothesis that Christianity had come into the "world. Detestation, contempt, ferocity," were what reached his ear. So wrote a shrewd, keen, practical politician who was certainly no sentimentalist, and as certainly moved by no mawkish philanthropy. So he described the tone of a society which, it can be no offence to say, must contain more able and

highly educated men then that of Fiji, towards a people whose ancient institutions, education, and wealth place them far above Fijian natives. Fiji.

Do not think I bring any charge against our settlers—quite the reverse. They are not worse than others, but it would be unreasonable to expect from them a much higher tone than prevails elsewhere, and the feelings to the existence of which in India Lord Elgin bears witness, and which, in the north of Australia, have it is said—I know not how truly—led to a state of things, the existence of which, in a British colony, it is hard to credit, but which is apparently unrebuked by public opinion, are not unknown here. I do not so much speak of the commission of active wrong, which is, I hope rare, as of the habitual tone of mind which finds it honestly impossible to conceive that in any way the native and the white can be placed on an equality. And the existence of such a tone renders greater evils easily possible. In this very room, when it was used for different purposes, a member of the old Fijian Parliament---if the newspaper reports of the debates of that day may be trusted—enunciated the doctrine, apparently approved by those around him, that even the highest chiefs, including Cakobau himself, were all "only niggers, who ought all to be working on a white man's plantation." On my arrival I was congratulated by one man on the number of natives the measles had swept off, and was consulted by another, in all seriousness, whether it was lawful for him to shoot natives who trespassed on his property, or what he assumed to be such. True, such things are not said to me now, and, though of course I am less likely now to be the confidant of such sentiments, I honestly believe the general tone of the community would reprove them. At the same time I must confess that during the Colo war I had ample experience that no little ferocity of feeling towards the natives continued to exist. But the prejudices of race are shown everywhere. They are shown in the unwillingness openly expressed that they should acquire mechanical arts, by a knowledge of which they might come into competition with white labour; in other words, men prefer to pay the high prices, and incur the inconvenient delays which are incident to the presence of a very small number of men trained to mechanical arts, rather than open to a native a field of industry which might place him on a level of competition with a white artizan. They are shown in the disinclination felt to admit natives of high rank, with the education, the manners, and the ideas of English gentlemen, to those social privileges which they may justly claim. They have been specially shown, in a recent case which owed wholly to the colour element the feeling it has aroused, and which, as it has excited notice elsewhere, I may as well notice here:—I mean the case of Mr. Chippendall.

Stripped of the irrelevant additions which the story has received from mendacious malignity, the case is this. Information, supported by a large mass of evidence, is received by the police to the effect that a labourer has received from his employer injuries, of the effects of which he died, and that the dead man has been buried surreptitiously and without the report required by law.

FIJI.

The police, as is their clear duty, lay this information before the Stipendiary Magistrate. The Magistrate, after hearing the evidence, commits the accused for trial, as on the evidence before him he was manifestly bound to do. On the trial the accused is acquitted. Meanwhile, the greatest indignation is expressed at the committal on such a charge of a member of the "dominant race."

Now make one slight alteration in the case. I will not say suppose a planter had died a few days after receiving a kick from a native, for we all know what sort of a sensation such an event would have excited, but suppose a planter had kicked one of his white servants,—his engineer or overseer,—that the man had died a few days later, and had been buried as this man was. Suppose the very same information that death had been caused by the kick, supported by the very same evidence, had been given to the police, will it be pretended for one moment that an inquiry before the Magistrate would not have been held as a matter of course, or that, on such evidence as that adduced, a committal would not have taken place?

No one can doubt this. No one can doubt that there would have been an indignant outcry that justice was being evaded, had it been otherwise. If this would have been the case had both parties been whites, why is the case to be different because one of them is friendless and a stranger, of a different colour, and an inferior race?

Do not deceive yourselves. You will never get the British Government to share what I may call the colour-blindness to which settlers are liable; nor will you ever have a Governor who will adopt the views to which I refer. The degree in which he may be influenced by the pressure round him will of course vary with the individual.

The temptations to yield to such pressure are very great. Do you think I do not know them? Do you think I have never felt them? Do you think I am not aware how very easy it would be to secure popularity, or that I am insensible of its pleasantness? There is something in every man's heart which prompts him to do that which it is pleasant and profitable and easy to do. It is only a few compliances, only a little pressure to procure labour, only a relaxation of strict scrutiny into land claims, only an acquiescence in a disregard of the position of those who have no newspapers to advocate their cause, no members of Parliament to air their grievances, but whose murmurs would pass unheard and might be safely disregarded. And why do I not pay attention to such whispers? It is simply because I dare not. I have a trust committed to me, and that trust I must discharge.

It will be an evil day, not only for the native race but for the whole Colony, should the weakness of listening to such seductive promptings ever be indulged in by those in power, for, depend upon it, the alienation of the native race would ensure a long course of trouble, difficulty, and disaster. In all other directions I see nothing but what is bright. Of the sound and steady progress of the Colony to a position of greatness as yet little dreamed of, I feel well assured. This, and this only, is as a cloud in the horizon, and it is one which is, I trust, in a fair way to be

dissipated. I should not, however, discharge my duty to you, did I not as my last word repeat the solemn warning I gave when about to leave for England two years ago—that by natural causes and by natural laws, which were God's instruments, every wrong done by a people brought about its own sure, however tardy, punishment.

And now it only remains to me to say farewell.

Fiji has worked itself into my very life far more closely than any other Colony I ever governed, and although I rejoice that my connexion with it will still remain close and intimate, it is very painful to me to think that it will be no longer my permanent residence. May the blessing of God rest upon it and upon you. It tranquillizes all human anxieties to remember that His overruling hand guides all things, and that infinite wisdom resides serene above our petty strife.—"The Lord is King, be the people never so impatient. He sitteth between the cherubim, be the earth never so unquiet."

VICTORIA.

No. 2.

Governor the MARQUIS OF NORMANBY to the Right Hon. the EARL OF KIMBERLEY.

Government House, Melbourne,
November 30, 1882.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to enclose to your Lordship a Digest of the Statistics of the Colony for the year 1881.

I have, &c.
(Signed) NORMANBY.

The Right Hon.
The Earl of Kimberley,
&c. &c.

DIGEST of the STATISTICS of VICTORIA, 1881.

Introductory Remarks.

Discovery of Victoria.

1. It is believed that the first Europeans who ever sighted any portion of the land now embraced within the limits of the Colony of Victoria were Captain James Cook, of the Royal Navy, and the crew of His Majesty's ship Endeavour. This vessel had been sent to Tahiti to observe the transit of Venus over the sun's disc, and Cook, who was in command, having accomplished that object, and having also made a survey of New Zealand, continued his course westward, in order to explore the eastern coast of "Terra Australis Incognita." He made the land on the 19th April 1770, and estimated a prominent point—which he named after the first discoverer, Lieutenant Hicks, one of the officers of his vessel—to be in latitude 38° south, longitude 211° 7′ west (148° 53′ east). Cook, however, did not attempt to land, or even to approach near the shore, but passed on to other discoveries. It may be observed that Point Hicks appears

VICTORIA.

to be identical with the present Cape Everard, in Gippsland, situated about midway between Cape Howe and the mouth of the Snowy River.*

First party to land.

2. About the middle of February 1797, a ship called the Sydney Cove, whilst on a voyage from India to New South Wales, was wrecked at Furneaux Islands, in Bass's Straits. Mr. Clarke the supercargo, the chief mate, and fifteen men, endeavoured to reach Sydney in the launch, but were driven on shore somewhere to the south of Cape Howe, and therefore on the coast of Victoria. They started off by land for Sydney, but three only, viz., Mr. Clarke, an English sailor, and a Lascar, reached it alive. Clarke and his party were probably the first Europeans who ever set foot upon the Victorian shore.

Early attempts at colonization.

3. The first attempt to colonize the district was made by an expedition under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel David Collins, a marine officer, who had previously held the post of Judge Advocate in Sydney. The party, which consisted of 307 convicts, with a guard of soldiers and a few civilians, making in all 402 persons, set sail from Portsmouth on the 26th April 1803, in two ships, which arrived at Port Phillip on the 7th and 11th October of the same year. They, however, remained only about three months, and then abandoned the territory as unfit for the residence of civilized man. A second attempt was made to found a convict establishment in the beginning of 1826, the site of the settlement being Western Port, and the commander of the expedition Captain Wetherall. As, however, the place chosen was altogether unsuitable, and moreover the expense was objected to by the British Government, orders were soon given to remove to Sydney, which was accordingly done. Thus on a second occasion the territory was abandoned.

Permanent settlement of the district.

4. The first permanent settlement was at Portland Bay, situated near the western extremity of the Colony, the pioneer being Mr. Edward Henty, who landed there from Tasmania, then called Van Diemen's Land, with a few followers, on the 19th November 1834, and soon began to till the soil, to run and breed stock, and to carry on whaling operations. In the following year two parties, also from Tasmania, established themselves at Port Phillip. The leader of the first party was John Batman, who landed on the 29th May 1835 at Indented Heads, about twelve miles from the entrance to Port Phillip; and the leader of the second was John Pascoe Fawkner, who landed on the 18th October 1835, having previously despatched a vessel which arrived on the 28th August. These three parties may be said to have paved the way to the successful colonization of the territory now called Victoria.

Statistics, 1881.

Census of 1881.

5. A census of Victoria was taken on the 3rd April 1881, that being the date on which the census was also taken in the United Kingdom, in the other Australasian colonies, and in most other portions of the British Empire.

* The latitude of Cape Everard, according to the latest computations, is 37° 49′ S., and the longitude 149° 17′ E.

Population, 1881.

6. According to the Victorian census the total population of the Colony was as follows :—

Males - - - -	452,083
Females - - - -	410,263
Total - -	862,346

Population, 1871 and 1881.

7. The previous census was taken on the 2nd April 1871, when the population returned was 731,528, viz., 401,050 males and 330,478 females. The increase during the intervening decenniad was thus 130,818, viz., 51,033 males and 79,785 females.

Proportions of the sexes.

8. The census of 1881 showed that the sexes in Victoria had attained a nearer approach to uniformity than had been reached at any previous period in the history of the Colony, or than had been anticipated. The proportions were 90·75 females to 100 males, or 110·19 males to 100 females. In 1871 females were in the proportion of 84·4 to 100 males, and in 1861 of 64·4 to 100

Density of population.

9. The population returned at the recent census furnishes a proportion of nearly 10 (9·8) persons to the square mile, or 98 persons to 10 square miles. In 1871 the proportion was 8·3 persons, and in 1861 it was 6·1 persons to the square mile.

Density of houses.

10. In 1881 the inhabited dwellings were in the proportion of nearly two (1·9) to the square mile, or 19 to 10 square miles. The inhabited dwellings in 1871 were in the proportion of 17 and in 1861 of 15 to 10 square miles.

Persons to a dwelling.

11. The number of persons to the inhabited dwelling is greater than it was formerly. The average in 1881 was 5·06, or 506 persons to every 100 such dwellings. In 1871 the proportion was no more than 486, and in 1861 only 417 persons to every 100 inhabited dwellings.

Birth places, 1871 and 1881.

12. In the following table a comparison is drawn between the numbers of several nationalities as returned at the censuses of 1871 and 1881 :—

Birthplaces of the People, 1871 and 1881.

Birthplaces.	Number of Persons.		Increase or Decrease in Ten Years.*		Proportions per cent. of the Total Population.	
	1871.	1881.	Numerical.	Centesimal.	1871.	1881.
Victoria - - - -	329,597	499,199	169,602	51·46	45·06	57·89
Other Australasian Colonies -	28,687	39,861	11,174	38·95	3·92	4·62
England and Wales - -	170,901	147,453	−23,448	−13·72	23·36	17·10
Scotland - - - -	56,210	48,153	−8,057	−14·33	7·68	5·58
Ireland - - - -	100,468	86,733	−13,735	−13·67	13·73	10·06
Other British Possessions -	8,368	10,148	1,780	21·27	1·15	1·18
Germany - - - -	8,995	8,571	−424	−4·71	1·23	·99
The United States - -	2,423	2,343	−80	−3·30	·33	·27
China† - - - -	17,857	11,799	−6,058	−33·93	2·44	1·37
Other Countries - - -	8,022	8,086	64	·80	1·10	·94
Total population -	731,528	862,346	130,818	17·88	100·00	100·00
British subjects - - -	694,231	831,547	137,316	19·78	94·90	96·43
Foreign subjects - - -	37,297	30,799	−6,498	−17·42	5·10	3·57

* In cases where a diminution has taken place the minus sign (−) is prefixed to the figures.

† The numbers in this line do not include 78 persons in 1871, and 329 in 1881, returned as of the Chinese race, but not born in China.

British and Foreign subjects.

13. The first grand division of the inhabitants of Victoria, according to their birthplaces, is into British and Foreign subjects.

VICTORIA.

The table shows that the former amounted in 1881 to nearly 96½ per cent. and the latter to about 3½ per cent. of the population; also that in the decenniad intervening between the last two censuses, while British subjects increased by nearly a fifth, Foreign subjects decreased by more than a sixth.

Victorian born.

14. The recent census is the first at which persons of Victorian birth amounted to more than half the population. Combining these with natives of the other Australasian colonies, the proportion to the total population is nearly two-thirds.

Decrease of certain nationalities.

15. In the interval between the censuses, the English, Scotch, Irish, Germans, Americans, and Chinese, embraced in the population, diminished in numbers, but the natives of Australia increased 50 per cent.

Decrease of Chinese.

16. No nationality decreased to the same extent as the Chinese, the falling off being more than a third. Next the Chinese, the Scotch show the largest falling off, the numbers in 1881 being a seventh less than in 1871.

Increase of natives of other colonies.

17. The attractiveness of Victoria to the natives of the other Australasian colonies is instanced by the fact that they increased by 39 per cent., whilst the increase of the total population was under 18 per cent. It may be mentioned that the natives of each individual colony of the group resident in Victoria increased in a faster ratio than the population of the latter, the proportionate increase of those of New Zealand being 86 per cent., of Queensland 69 per cent., of South Australia 44 per cent., of Western Australia 29 per cent., of Tasmania 28 per cent., and of New South Wales over 18 per cent.

Religions, 1871 and 1881.

18. The numbers of different religious beliefs at the censuses of 1871 and 1881 are compared in the following table:—

Religions of the People, 1871 and 1881.

Religious Denominations.	Number of Persons.		Increase or Decrease in Ten Years.*		Proportions pe cent. of the Total Population.	
	1871.	1881.	Numerical.	Centennial.	1871.	1881.
Church of England†	257,835	311,291	53,456	20·74	36·01	36·74
Presbyterians	112,983	132,591	19,608	17·44	15·78	15·64
Methodists	90,026	108,393	18,367	20·40	12·57	12·79
Independents	18,191	19,878	1,687	9·27	2·54	2·35
Baptists	16,311	20,373	4,062	24·90	2·28	2·40
Bible Christians	4,194	6,660	2,466	58·80	·59	·79
Disciples of Christ, Christians	3,540	4,859	1,319	37·26	·49	·57
Lutherans	10,559	11,149	590	5·59	1·47	1·32
Calvinists	1,432	712	−720	−50·28	·20	·08
Christian Brethren	193	648	455	235·75	·03	·08
Unitarians	1,016	942	−74	−7·28	·14	·11
Other Protestants	1,046	896	−150	−14·34	·15	·11
Roman Catholics‡	170,620	203,480	32,860	19·26	23·83	24·01
Spiritualists	171	853	682	398·83	·02	·10
Jews	3,571	4,330	759	21·25	·50	·51
Pagans	17,650	11,159	−6,491	−36·78	2·47	1·32
Other Sects	1,778	1,491	−287	−16·14	·25	·18
No Denomination	2,737	4,979	2,242	81·91	·38	·59
No Religion	2,150	2,607	457	21·26	·30	·31
Total specified	716,003	847,291	131,288	18·34	100·00	100·00
Unspecified	5,560	6,457	897	16·13	—	—
Object to state religion	9,965	8,598	−1,367	−13·72	—	—
Total population	731,528	862,346	130,818	17·88	—	—

* In cases where a diminution has taken place the minus sign (−) is prefixed to the figures.
† Including also Free Church of England and Protestants not otherwise defined.
‡ Including also Catholics not otherwise defined.

19. If the whole of the Protestant sects be combined, the total number of Protestants is found to have been 517,326 in 1871 and 618,392 in 1881. The proportion of these to the population was 72·25 per cent. at the former and 72·98 per cent at the latter period. At the same two periods respectively the table shows the percentage of Roman Catholics in the population to have been 23·83 and 24·02. Both these denominations have therefore altered their numbers relatively to the whole population by a fraction only (·73 in the case of the Protestants and ·19 in the case of the Roman Catholics, both being increases), or, in other words, they have both increased at about the same rate as the total population. Protestants and Roman Catholics.

20. The table also shows that all the principal Protestant sects have changed their proportions to the population by fractions only; there being a fraction of relative increase in the case of the members of the Church of England, the Methodists, and the Baptists, and of relative decrease in the case of the Presbyterians and the Independents. Protestant sects.

21. The Chinese returned at the census numbered 12,128. Of these 11,159, or 92 per cent. were set down as Pagans. Pagans.

22. The persons of no denomination and no religion increased, in the interval between the last two censuses, from 4,887 to 7,586, or 55 per cent. Jointly, they do not yet amount to 1 per cent. of the population. No denomination and religion.

23. The following table contains a statement of the numbers of males and females arranged in quinquennial periods of age at the two last censuses:— Ages, 1871 and 1881 compared.

Ages of the People, 1871 *and* 1881.

Ages.	Males.			Females.		
	1871.	1881.	Increase or Decrease.*	1871.	1881.	Increase or Decrease.*
Under 5 years	58,937	57,846	−1,091	57,751	56,359	−1,392
5 to 10 „	53,549	54,843	1,294	52,954	54,461	1,507
10 to 15 „	43,012	54,330	11,318	42,573	53,923	11,350
15 to 20 „	26,264	49,445	23,181	28,292	51,191	22,899
20 to 25 „	24,004	40,593	16,589	25,418	43,324	17,906
25 to 30 „	28,875	27,482	−1,393	25,395	26,992	1,597
30 to 35 „	33,257	22,633	−10,624	24,100	21,954	−2,146
35 to 40 „	38,405	23,434	−14,971	23,625	21,571	−2,054
40 to 45 „	34,876	25,948	−8,928	17,945	21,245	3,300
45 to 50 „	22,091	28,354	6,263	11,368	19,439	8,071
50 to 55 „	16,572	26,439	9,867	8,528	15,296	6,768
55 to 60 „	8,738	15,967	7,229	4,784	9,118	4,334
60 to 65 „	6,335	12,046	5,711	3,779	7,008	3,229
65 to 70 „	3,053	6,156	3,103	1,891	3,801	1,910
70 to 75 „	2,004	3,686	1,682	1,321	2,524	1,203
75 to 80 „	670	1,782	1,112	458	1,215	757
80 to 85 „	290	851	561	217	621	404
85 years and upwards	118	248	130	79	221	142
Total	401,050	452,083	51,033	330,478	410,263	79,785

* The Minus (−) sign indicates a decrease.

24. The total population of Victoria halves itself at nineteen years of age, there being about as many persons above as at and below that age. Upon the same principle, the male population halves itself at 20 years of age, and the female population at 18 years of age. Ages at which population halves itself.

VICTORIA.

Average age of population.

25. According to the census, the average age of the population was as follows in 1881 :—Males, 26·11 years, females, 23·29 years, both sexes, 24·77 years. Males were, therefore, on the average, about 2 years and ten months older than females. In 1871 the population was younger, on the average, than in 1881, males by nearly 11 months, females by 2 years.

Conjugal condition.

26. The conjugal condition of all the males in the colony except 2,822 and of all the females except 2,052 was returned at the census, and the result is given in the following table :—

Conjugal condition of the People, 1881.

Ages.	Males.				Females.			
	Unmarried.	Husbands.	Widowers.	Total.*	Unmarried.	Wives.	Widows.	Total.*
Under 15 years -	166,611	—	—	166,611	164,448	5	—	164,453
15 to 20 „ -	49,138	54	—	49,192	48,846	1,449	20	50,315
20 to 30 „ -	50,986	15,928	287	67,201	38,053	30,696	1,099	69,848
30 to 40 „ -	15,032	29,531	1,014	45,577	5,478	35,067	2,755	43,300
40 to 50 „ -	14,908	36,297	2,490	53,695	2,473	32,598	5,369	40,440
50 to 60 „ -	10,407	27,839	3,724	41,970	1,068	17,901	5,314	24,283
60 years and upwards - -	5,637	13,622	5,200	24,459	724	7,493	7,015	15,232
Unspecified adults	335	188	33	556	96	184	60	340
All ages - -	313,054	123,459	12,748	449,261	261,186	125,393	21,632	408,211
Under 21 years -	224,218	278	6	224,502	221,385	2,974	47	224,406
21 years and upwards - -	88,836	123,181	12,742	224,759	39,801	122,419	21,585	183,805
15 years and upwards - -	146,443	123,459	12,748	282,650	96,738	125,388	21,632	243,758
20 years and upwards - -	97,305	123,405	12,748	233,458	47,892	123,939	21,612	193,443

* Exclusive of those whose conjugal condition was not returned.

Married persons.

27. According to this table, there were, when the census was taken, 248,852 persons, or 29 per cent. of the population in the marriage state, the wives exceeding the husbands by 1,934.

Marriageable persons.

28. The single males of 20 and upwards and the single females of 15 and upwards, or, in other words, the bachelors and spinsters in the population, numbered 97,305 and 96,738 respectively. If to these be added the widowers and widows at all ages, the whole marriageable population is ascertained to have amounted to 110,053 males and 118,370 females, the latter exceeding the former by 8,317.

Proportions of marriageable males and females.

29. The marriageable females were in the proportion of nearly 108 to every 100 marriageable males. This is the first occasion on which the females in this condition exceeded the males. When the census of 1871 was taken, there were only 74 marriageable females to every 100 marriageable males.

Married persons under age of 21 years.

30. It will be observed that before they had reached their 21st year 284 youths had become husbands, of whom six had lost their wives, and 3,021 women and girls had become wives, of whom 47 had lost their husbands ; also that five girls under 15 years of age were living in a marriage state.

31. In the next table are given the proportions at the last two censuses of unmarried, married, and widowed males and females in every 100 of both sexes living at various periods of life :—

Conjugal conditions, 1871 and 1881.

Conjugal Condition, 1871 *and* 1881.

Ages.	In every 100 living at each age.					
	Males.			Females.		
	Unmarried.	Husbands.	Widowers.	Unmarried.	Wives.	Widows.
1871.						
Under 21 years	99·90	·10	—	98·19	1·79	·02
21 years and upwards	43·24	52·15	4·61	14·96	75·50	9·54
15 „ „	50·33	45·64	4·03	29·20	63·05	7·75
20 „ „	44·40	51·09	4·51	16·99	73·80	9·21
All ages	69·68	27·86	2·46	62·10	33·75	4·15
1881.						
Under 21 years	99·88	·12	—	98·65	1·33	·02
21 years and upwards	39·52	54·81	5·67	21·65	66·60	11·75
15 „ „	51·81	43·68	4·51	39·69	51·44	8·87
20 „ „	41·68	52·86	5·46	24·76	64·07	11·17
All ages	69·68	27·48	2·84	63·98	30·72	5·30

Married persons, 1871 and 1881.

32. Considering the population at all ages, and discarding decimal points, it is found that in 1871 6,161 of every 10,000 of both sexes, viz., 2,786 males and 3,375 females, were married. In 1881 these numbers had fallen to 5,820, viz., 2,748 males and 3,072 females.

Unmarried persons, 1871 and 1881.

33. At all ages from infancy upwards the unmarried males bore the same proportion to the population at both periods, viz., 6,968 per 10,000, but the unmarried females per 10,000 increased from 6,210 to 6,398.

Widowed persons, 1871 and 1881.

34. Both widowers and widows, the latter especially, showed relatively to population, larger numbers in 1881 than in 1871.

Marriageable persons, 1871 and 1881.

35. In every 10,000 of their respective numbers in the population, the unmarried males of 20 and upwards, added to the widowers of all ages (marriageable males), fell from 4,686 to 4,452; but the unmarried females of 15 and upwards, added to the widows of all ages (marriageable females) increased from 3,335 to 4,499.

Education of the people.

36. The census returns of education give an acocunt of the numbers and ages of those persons who have acquired the rudimentary arts of reading and writing, but do not supply any particulars of the higher branches of knowledge which many such persons also possess. The following table contains a statement of the numbers at different ages who could read and write, who could read but not write, or who were unable to read, at the last two censuses. Those of whom the education was not

VICTORIA.

returned, amounting to 5,657 in 1871 nd to 14,582 in 1881, are omitted :—

Education of the People, 1871 *and* 1881.—*Numbers.*

Ages.	Total Numbers living, 1871.				Total Numbers living, 1881.			
	Able to read and write.	Able to read only.	Unable to read.	Total.*	Able to read and write.	Able to read only.	Unable to read.	Total.*
Under 6 years -	1,651	11,128	125,045	137,824	3,509	9,884	118,975	132,368
6 to 15 „ -	120,383	32,263	17,070	169,716	163,126	17,459	9,557	190,142
15 to 25 „ -	95,915	3,647	3,189	102,751	179,100	1,627	2,128	182,855
25 to 35 „ -	93,074	6,756	10,319	110,149	92,122	2,287	3,546	97,955
35 to 45 „ -	91,998	8,228	13,146	113,372	78,823	4,666	7,449	90,938
45 to 55 „ -	46,234	4,747	6,830	57,811	73,601	5,718	9,017	88,336
55 to 65 „ -	17,953	2,404	2,939	23,296	35,450	3,401	4,644	43,495
65 years and upwards - -	7,305	1,247	1,341	9,893	16,029	2,119	2,557	20,705
Unspecified adults	358	30	671	1,059	752	48	170	970
All ages - -	474,871	70,450	180,550	725,871	642,512	47,209	158,043	847,764
15 years and upwards - -	352,837	27,059	38,435	418,331	475,877	19,866	29,511	525,254
21 years and upwards - -	292,690	24,863	36,857	354,410	359,782	18,940	28,395	407,117

* Exclusive of those whose education was not returned.

Education, 1871 and 1881.

37. On examination of the two lowest lines of the table, it will be found that, although at 15 years of age and upwards the total number of persons had increased in ten years by 107,000, those unable to read had decreased by 9,000; and at 21 years of age and upwards, although the total number of persons had increased by 53,000 those unable to read had fallen off by 8,000. The improvement which has taken place in education will, however, be best traced by a reference to the following table, which shows in 1871 and 1881 the numbers instructed, partially instructed, and uninstructed in every 100 living at each period of life :—

Education of the People, 1871 *and* 1881.—*Proportions.*

Ages.	Number in every 100 living at each age in 1871.			Number in every 100 living at each age in 1881.		
	Able to read and write.	Able to read only.	Unable to read.	Able to read and write.	Able to read only.	Unable to read.
Under 6 years - - -	1·20	8·07	90·73	2·65	7·46	89·89
6 to 15 „ - - -	70·93	19·01	10·06	85·79	9·18	5·03
15 to 25 „ - - -	93·35	3·55	3·10	97·95	·89	1·16
25 to 35 „ - - -	84·50	6·13	9·37	94·04	2·34	3·62
35 to 45 „ - - -	81·15	7·26	11·59	86·68	5·13	8·19
45 to 55 „ - - -	79·98	8·21	11·81	83·32	6·47	10·21
55 to 65 „ - - -	77·06	10·32	12·62	81·50	7·82	10·68
65 years and upwards - -	73·84	12·60	13·56	77·41	10·23	12·36
Unspecified adults - -	33·81	2·83	63·36	77·52	4·95	17·53
All ages - - - -	65·42	9·71	24·87	75·79	5·57	18·64
15 years and upwards - -	84·34	6·47	9·19	90·60	3·78	5·62
21 „ „ - -	82·59	7·01	10·40	88·37	4·65	6·98

Improved state of education, 1881.

38. Comparing the columns relating to 1881 with those containing the figures derived from the returns of the previous census, improvement will be noted in every line, the numbers able to read and write being more numerous and those unable to read

being fewer. The comparison will be best effected by removing the decimal points, when the following results will be observed:—

In every 10,000 *Persons living.*

	In 1871.	In 1881.
At all ages	7,513	8,136 could read.
"	6,542	7,579 could write.
"	2,487	1,864 could not read.
Between 6 and 15 (school age)	8,994	9,497 could read.
" " "	7,093	8,579 could write.
" " "	1,006	503 could not read.
At 15 and upwards	9,081	9,438 could read.
"	8,434	9,060 could write.
"	919	562 could not read.
At 21 and upwards	8,960	9,302 could read.
"	8,259	8,837 could write.
"	1,040	698 could not read.

Education of boys and girls.

39. At the school age, girls appear to have been rather superior to boys in point of elementary instruction, as will be seen by the following figures, which are derived from the returns of the census of 1881:—

In every 10,000 living at the school age (6 to 15):—

Boys.	Girls.
9,468	9,526 could read.
8,509	8,649 could write.
532	474 could not read.

Education of children of different sects.

40. The degree of education of children at the school age is found to differ according to the religious denomination. This will be seen by the following table, which shows the proportionate amount of primary instruction returned as possessed by the children belonging to each of the principal sects:—

Education of Children of different Sects, 1881.

Religious Denominations.	Numbers in every 100 living		
	Able to read and write.	Able to read only.	Unable to read.
Church of England	86·31	8·69	5·00
Presbyterians	87·33	8·81	3·86
Wesleyan Methodists	88·44	8·01	3·55
Independents	89·90	6·76	3·34
Baptists	89·36	6·99	3·65
Lutherans	86·24	7·28	6·48
Unitarians	96·27	2·99	·74
Other Protestants	88·77	7·42	3·81
Total Protestants	87·23	8·41	4·36
Roman Catholics	81·85	11·40	6·75
Jews	93·21	3·45	3·34
Total	85·79	9·18	5·03

VICTORIA.

Education of Protestant, Catholic, and Jewish children.

41. Of all the denominations named in the table, the children of the Unitarians appear to be the best educated, and those of the Jews next. It must, however, be remembered that the adherents of these bodies are but few in number, and probably do not often belong to the labouring classes. Especial interest attaches to the returns of the Roman Catholic denomination, as that body labours under the disadvantage of not, as a rule, availing itself of the gratuitous instruction offered by the State. The comparison of the degree of elementary education possessed by Roman Catholic children with that of children of Protestants and Jews will be best understood by the following figures:—

Children between 6 *and* 15 *Years of Age.*

Of Protestants	- -	9,564 in 10,000	could read.
,,	- -	8,723 ,,	could write.
,,	- -	436 ,,	could not read.
Of Roman Catholics	-	9,325 ,,	could read.
,,	- -	8,185 ,,	could write.
,,	- -	675 ,,	could not read.
Of Jews	- -	9,666 ,,	could read.
,,	- -	9,321 ,,	could write.
,,	- -	334 ,,	could not read.

Education of children of different sects compared.

43. It will be observed that, in proportion to their numbers, the Jews have more children who can read and write, and fewer who are illiterate, than either of the other denominations; also that the Protestant children are in point of instruction somewhat in advance of the Roman Catholic children. The latter are, in this respect, slightly behind the children at the school age in the whole population, but much in advance of such children in 1871, and there is little doubt that the instruction of children of every denomination is now much better than it was 10 years since.

Urban and rural population, 1871 and 1881.

43. Between the censuses of 1871 and 1881, the population of Melbourne and suburbs increased by considerably more than a third and that of the country districts by about a fifth, but the population of the extra-metropolitan towns fell off by a twentieth. The following is a statement of the population of these portions of the Colony at the two periods, and the numerical and centesimal increase or decrease which took place between them.

Urban and Rural Population, Censuses of 1871 *and* 1881.

Districts.	Enumerated Population.		Increase* in Ten Years.	
	1871.	1881.	Number.	Per cent.
Urban { Metropolitan -	206,780	282,947	76,167	36·85
Urban { Extra Metropolitan.	197,793	188,477	—9,316	—4·92
Extra-Urban or Rural -	326,955	390,922	63,967	19·71
Total of Victoria -	731,528	862,346	130,818	17·88

* Net figures.

Population of five towns.

44. Next to Melbourne, the five largest towns in Victoria are Ballarat, Sandhurst, Geelong, Castlemaine, and Stawell. Several of these consist of more than one municipality, and in making up their populations it is necessary to include such portions of their immediate suburbs as are, to all intents, part of the town. Since the census of 1871, the falling off in the number of persons engaged in gold mining has caused a diminution in the populations of Ballarat and Stawell, and the superior attractions of Melbourne and other causes has caused a reduction of the population of Geelong; the populations of Sandhurst and Castlemaine increased, but not sufficiently to prevent a falling off in the five towns of 4,591, as will be seen by the following figures:—

Population of five largest Extra-Metropolitan Towns, 1871 *and* 1881.

Name of Town.	Population.		Increase.	Decrease.
	1871.	1881.		
Ballarat - - -	49,971	41,540	—	8,431
Sandhurst - -	29,871	36,640	6,769	—
Geelong - -	22,663	20,149	—	2,514
Stawell - - -	11,197	8,600	—	2,597
Castlemaine - -	5,166	7,348	2,182	—
Total - -	118,868	114,277		4,591*

* Net figures.

Population and dwellings on gold fields.

45. The following table gives a statement of the total number of inhabitants and dwellings on the gold fields situated within each mining district at the census of 1881 and the former one; also the decrease of persons and dwellings in the interval between the two periods:—

Population and Dwellings on the Gold Fields, 1871 *and* 1881.

Mining Districts.*	Population.			Inhabited Dwellings.		
	1871.	1881.	De-crease.†	1871.	1881.	Decrease.
Ararat - - - -	19,546	15,538	4,008	4,754	3,320	1,434
Ballarat - - - -	94,618	76,092	18,526	20,658	14,895	5,763
Beechworth - - -	27,061	27,270	+209	6,565	6,069	496
Castlemaine - - -	38,385	30,006	8,379	9,709	7,140	2,569
Gippsland - - - -	5,557	4,410	1,147	1,657	1,149	508
Maryborough - - -	35,892	32,038	3,854	9,786	8,236	1,550
Sandhurst - - - -	49,369	45,590	3,779	11,738	9,771	1,967
Total - - -	270,428	230,944	39,484	64,867	50,580	14,287

* This table does not contain a statement of the total population of each mining district, but only of the persons living on or in the immediate vicinity of the gold workings situated therein.

† Where an increase has taken place the plus sign (+) is placed against the figures. In other cases the figures denote decrease.

VICTORIA.

Population on gold fields 1871 and 1881 compared.

46. It will be observed that the gold-field population fell off in all the mining districts except Beechworth, where there was a trifling increase, and their dwellings fell off in all the districts. It has been already shown* in regard to the total population that more persons on the average lived in a dwelling in 1881 than in 1871, and this was found also to be the case on the gold fields, where the proportion in 1871 was 4·17 to the dwelling, or 417 persons to every 100 dwellings, and in 1881 4·57 to the dwelling, or 457 persons to every 100 dwellings.

Tents on gold fields.

47. Of the habitations on the gold fields, only 717 were tents, the small number indicating an entire change in the habits of the mining population since the days of the early gold fields. This had commenced prior to the census of 1871, when no more than 2,252 were returned in the gold fields districts as against the very large number of 37,169 at the census of 1861.

Proportions of sexes on gold fields.

48. Males and females on the gold fields numbered respectively 155,269 and 115,159 in 1871 and 123,344 and 107,600 in 1881. The sexes were much more equal at the latter period than at the former, there being as many as 87 females to 100 males in 1881, whereas there were no more than 74 females to 100 males in 1871.

Gold miners, 1881.

49. The actual number of gold miners will be shown by the census returns as soon as the tabulation of the occupations of the people has been completed; an estimate of the number of miners actually at work is, however, each year made by the Mining Department, and the figures for the end of 1881 are subjoined.

Estimated number of Gold Miners, 1881.

Alluvial miners -	21,874	European miners -	30,195
Quartz miners -	16,262	Chinese miners -	7,941
Total -	38,136	Total -	38,136

Chinese.

50. The total number of Chinese enumerated amounted to 12,128, viz., 11,869 males and 259 females. According to the census of 1871 the Chinese then in the Colony numbered 17,935, viz., 17,899 males and 36 females, therefore the total number has fallen off in the last 10 years by 5,807, and the males by 6,030; but during the same period the females have increased by 223.

Chinese on gold fields.

51. In 1871, 90 per cent. of the Chinese in Victoria were resident on the gold fields, but in 1881 only 65 per cent. were there resident.

Aborigines.

52. A careful examination of the schedules has afforded information of the existence of only 780 Aborigines, viz., 460 males and 320 females. It is probable that a few more exist, as the sub-enumerators sometimes failed to comply with the instruc-

* *See* paragraph 11, *ante*.

tion to note the fact of the person being an Aboriginal after the birth place entry, and therefore the name, place of residence, &c., rendering it probable he belonged to that race, had to be taken into account, and these did not always supply the desired information. According to a census undertaken by the Central Board for the protection of the Aborigines, in March 1877, the number in the Colony was then 1,067, viz., 633 males and 434 females.

Population at end and middle of 1881.

53. Brought on from the census figures, by means of the differences between registered births and deaths and the recorded arrivals and departures, the population of Victoria at the end of 1881 and the mean or average population of that year may be set down as follows :—

Population, 31*st December* 1881.

Males - - - -	464,222
Females - - - -	418,010
Total - -	882,232

Mean Population, 1881.

Males - - - -	456,107
Females - - - -	412,835
Total - -	868,942

Imperfections in Immigration returns.

54. In the following paragraphs the immigration and emigration referred to is by sea only; and the results given would probably be greatly modified if the overland traffic, of which no record exists, were to be taken into account, more especially since the facilities for overland intercourse with the neighbouring colonies are being rapidly increased by the extension of railways. For many years past two lines have extended from Melbourne to the river Murray, and during the last two years virtually complete* railway communication has existed between the capitals of Victoria and New South Wales; railways also run westward in this Colony to within 100 miles of the South Australian border, the journey being continued onwards by means of coaches. With such facilities as these, it is natural to suppose that many persons about to come to Victoria from, or leave it for, one of the adjacent colonies, would find it more convenient to take the land route rather than that by the seaboard. As time advances, there is little doubt that the records kept by the Immigration Department will less and less account for the actual immigration and emigration of the Colony.

* The lines have been completed except about three miles between Wodonga and Albury, including the bridge to be constructed over the Murray and its approaches.

VICTORIA.

Immigration and Emigration, 1881.

55. The arrivals and departures by sea during 1881, also the excess of the former over the latter, were as follows :—

Immigration and Emigration, 1881.

—	Males.	Females.	Total.
Arrivals by sea - - -	41,579	17,487	59,066
Departures by sea - - -	35,692	16,052	51,744
Excess of arrivals - -	5,887	1,435	7,322

Arrivals and departures, 1881 and former years.

56. The arrivals in 1881 were more numerous by 2,111, and the departures by 6,450, than in 1880. In both these years, however, the numbers arriving and departing were much above the average, the former being greater than in any previous year since 1857, and the latter than in any other year since the Colony was founded. This circumstance is doubtless owing to large numbers of visitors and others having been attracted to Victoria by the Melbourne International Exhibition, which was opened on the 1st October 1880 and closed on the 30th April 1881 ; and this inference is borne out by the fact that over two-fifths of the persons who arrived in 1881 came, and nearly half those who departed left, during the first four months of the year, when the exhibition was open, the excess of the former over the latter being very small. That much of the immigration, however, was of a permanent character appears evident from the result of the last eight months of the year, which were not directly affected by the exhibition, for the excess of arrivals over departures during that period was at the rate of 10,000 per annum, a number which would compare most favourably with the excess in previous years.

Chinese immigration.

57. The Chinese immigrants included in the returns of 1881 numbered 1,348, or 401 more than in the previous year, and included 4 females. The number of Chinese emigrants during 1881, of which there is any record, is 652 (all but two of whom were males), as compared with 114 in 1880 ; but this does not include those departing in steamers to the colonies of New South Wales, Tasmania, and South Australia ; consequently, this number, probably to a great extent, understates the truth.

Chinese where from and where to.

58. Of the Chinese who arrived, 129 came from New South Wales, 53 from New Zealand, 33 from South Australia, 107 from Tasmania, 1,008 from Hong Kong, and 18 from Batavia. Of those recorded as having left, 133 went to New Zealand, 6 to South Australia, 464 to Hong Kong, and 49 to India.

Chinese immigration, 1853 to 1881.

59. Chinese first began to arrive in Victoria in 1853 ; and at the census of 1854 2,000 were enumerated. In 1855 an Act* was passed limiting the number of Chinese males a ship might bring to Victoria to one to every ten tons, and making it com-

* Act 18 Vict., No. 39 (12th June 1855).

pulsory that the sum of ten pounds should be paid in respect to each of such immigrants. But notwithstanding the stringent provisions of this Statute, which, however, were largely evaded by Chinese being landed in the adjacent colonies and coming to Victoria overland, the Chinese had in 1857, when the next census was taken, increased to 25,370; and at the end of 1859 it was estimated that they numbered no less than 42,000. Soon after this an exodus of Chinese took place, chiefly to New South Wales, it being estimated that, besides those who departed by sea, as many as 11,000 went over the frontier to work at the Lambing Flat diggings in that colony. In consequence of this, the census of 1861 showed the number of Chinese remaining in Victoria to be only 24,732, or 638 less than in 1857. In 1865 the Act which imposed restrictions on Chinese immigration was repealed; but notwithstanding this, the number of Chinese in the colony decreased, by the time the census of 1871 was taken, to 17,935, or by 6,797 as compared with 1861; which number at the census of 1881 had been still further reduced to 12,128, or by 5,807 more. The official records of the departures of Chinese by sea are of little value, as no account is kept of those who go to the adjacent colonies; but the arrivals by sea have been regularly recorded since 1860, and were as follows:—

Arrivals of Chinese by Sea, 1861 to 1881.

1861	154	1872	385
1862	175	1873	269
1863	80	1874	386
1864	978	1875	521
1865	1,085	1876	377
1866	974	1877	449
1867	317	1878	819
1868	300	1879	875
1869	1,121	1880	947
1870	584	1881	1,348
1871	704		

Average number of Chinese immigrants.

60. The whole number of Chinese who arrived in the 21 years was 12,848, or an average of 612 per annum. It will be observed that only in 1881 and two other years of the period did the number arriving exceed 1,000, and the highest number reached, viz., 1,348, was in the year under review.

Finance accounts, 1880-81.

61. The financial year 1880–1* commenced with the large debit balance of £388,000; but the revenue of the year exceeded

* Year ended 30th June 1881.

VICTORIA.

the expenditure by £77,000, and thus the deficiency was reduced to 311,000*l.* The following are the exact figures:—

Finance Account, 1880–1.

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Receipts - - - -	5,186,011	7	7
Expenditure - - - -	5,108,642	3	2
Receipts in excess of expenditure -	77,369	4	5
Debit balance of 1879–80 brought forward	388,654	5	7
Debit balance - - - -	311,285	1	2

Treasury bonds.

62. This debit balance, which had been accumulating for years past, but had been most largely added to in the years of commercial depression, 1878–9 and 1879–80, it was deemed desirable to discharge, together with other anticipated liabilities, by means of Treasury bonds, and accordingly on the 19th October 1880 such bonds were issued to the extent of 500,000*l.*, divided into three nearly equal portions, repayable in one, two, and three years respectively. If the amount thus raised be set against the deficit at the end of 1880–1, there would remain a net credit balance of nearly 189,000*l.*, or much more than sufficient for the repayment of the first instalment of the bonds, thus:—

	£
Actual debit balance at end of 1880–1 -	311,285
Treasury bonds - - - -	500,000
Apparent credit balance - -	188,715

Changes effected by legislation, &c.

63. During the financial year under review, the general revenue was augmented by the imposition, on the 1st November 1880, of tobacco and beer duties, which realized about 84,400*l.*; whilst stamp duties, which had only been in force for about 6½ months of 1879–80, produced 32,800*l.* more than in that financial year. An increase, as compared with 1879–80, of 117,200*l.* is thus directly attributable to the sources of revenue having been augmented by legislation. In addition to this amount, accidental or exceptional increases occurred under the following heads: an increase of 40,000*l.* in the revenue from estates of deceased persons, of 42,400*l.* in that from the irregularly paid land tax, and also a new item of 6,400*l.* derived from the premium upon the sale of Treasury bonds. Moreover, the railways were extended by an average length of 44 miles over and above the extent open for traffic in the previous year; and if 1,250*l.* per mile be allowed for such extension, the extra revenue derived therefrom would be 55,000*l.* The revenue of 1880–1 is thus shown to have increased 117,200*l.* by fresh legislation, 88,800*l.* through accidental or exceptional causes, and 55,000*l.* on account of the extension of

railways, which together make a total of 261,000*l.* It may be mentioned that the only exceptional item of any importance which appeared in the revenue of 1879–80 was 43,700*l.*, being the net revenue on account of 1878–9 derived from the Hobson's Bay railways.

Revenue 1880–1, and previous years.

64. The revenue of 1880–1 was by far the largest ever raised in Victoria. It exceeded the revenue of 1876–7, which was the year in which the largest revenue had previously been realised by nearly half a million sterling (462,134*l.*), and exceeded the revenue of 1879–80 by considerably more than half a million (564,729*l.*).

Expenditure, 1880–1, and former years.

65. The expenditure of 1880–1 was also far greater than that of any previous year. Prior to 1853 the annual expenditure never exceeded one million sterling; from 1853 to 1872–3 it usually fluctuated between two and three millions; from 1873–4 to 1879–80 it was between four and four and three-quarter millions; and in the year under review, for the first time, it exceeded five millions. As compared with 1879–80, the increase in the total expenditure was 233,613*l.*; but the expenditure proper, *i. e.*, excluding amounts to be recouped, increased by as much as 299,245*l.* This increased expenditure is more than accounted for by the payment of 200,000*l.* due annually to the Railway Loan Liquidation and Construction Account, but had not been paid in the previous year; an increase of 110,000*l.* in the interest on the public debt, and of 47,000*l.* under the head of Railways, or, in all, 357,000*l.* This exceeds by 57,000*l.* the amount by which the expenditure was above that of the previous year, therefore this sum may be considered as representing a saving in the ordinary branches of expenditure.

Revenue and expenditure per head.

66. The revenue per head in 1880–1 was 6*l.* 0*s.* 7*d.*, and the expenditure per head was 5*l.* 18*s.* 10*d*

Heads of revenue.

67. The following are the heads of revenue in Victoria for the last seven financial years, and the amounts received under each head. Recoups and other items which do not properly form part of the revenue proper have been eliminated, and are added separately at the end of the table:—

Heads of Revenue, 1874–5 *to* 1880–1.

Heads of Revenue.	Year.	Amounts Received.	Heads of Revenue.	Year.	Amounts Received.
TAXATION.		£	TAXATION—*cont.*		£
Customs	1874–5	1,628,235	Ports and harbours	1874–5	19,935
	1875–6	1,657,788		1875–6	22,104
	1876–7	1,631,832		1876–7	20,993
	1877–8	1,487,448		1877–8	22,647
	1878–9	1,378,384		1878–9	20,310
	1879–80	1,377,782		1879–80	19,194
	1880–1	1,474,778		1880–1	20,577
Excise	1864–5	32,475	Licenses (business)	1874–5	10,714
	1875–6	33,437		1875–6	10,712
	1870–7	34,768		1876–7	11,688
	1877–8	36,309		1877–8	17,150
	1878–9	36,088		1878–9	20,116
	1879–80	41,230		1879–80	21,761
	1880–1	136,661		1880–1	23,906

Heads of Revenue.	Year.	Amounts Received.
TAXATION—*cont.*		£
Duties on estates of deceased persons	1874–5	32,526
	1875–6	48,963
	1876–7	44,104
	1877–8	72,500
	1878–9	47,983
	1879–80	37,928
	1880–1	78,141
Duties on bank notes	1874–5	—
	1875–6	7,191
	1876–7	27,248
	1877–8	26,672
	1878–9	24,956
	1879–80	22,470
	1880–1	23,807
Land Tax	1874–5	—
	1875–6	—
	1876–7	—
	1877–8	50,227
	1878–9	202,251
	1879–80	87,553
	1880–1	129,990
Stamp duty	1874–5	—
	1875–6	—
	1876–7	—
	1877–8	—
	1878–9	—
	1879–80	83,005
	1880–1	115,844
Tolls	1874–5	937
	1875–6	197
	1876–7	52
	1877–8	—
	1878–9	—
	1879–80	—
	1880–1	—
LAND REVENUE.		
Land sales (including rents counting towards purchase money)	1874–5	767,624
	1875–6	782,069
	1876–7	783,311
	1877–8	756,674
	1878–9	802,254
	1879–80	694,321
	1880–1	701,276
Rents of Crown lands (not counting towards purchase money)	1874–5	173,601
	1875–6	184,776
	1876–7	208,872
	1877–8	186,337
	1878–9	163,207
	1879–80	147,994
	1880–1	133,913

Heads of Revenue.	Year.	Amount Received.
LAND REVENUE—*cont.*		£
Penalties under Land Acts	1874–5	5,528
	1875–6	53,167
	1876–7	54,232
	1877–8	14,704
	1878–9	3,774
	1879–80	1,749
	1880–1	1,281
PUBLIC WORKS.		
Railways	1874–5	921,714
	1875–6	983,033
	1876–7	1,078,082
	1877–8	1,202,280
	1878–9	1,222,241
	1879–80	1,468,909
	1880–1	1,578,432
Water supply	1874–5	88,556
	1875–6	92,947
	1876–7	100,219
	1877–8	104,819
	1878–9	115,287
	1879–80	117,871
	1880–1	119,562
Public works (exclusive of tolls, railways, and water supply)	1874–5	5,897
	1875–6	5,845
	1876–7	5,638
	1877–8	5,190
	1878–9	5,879
	1879–80	4,142
	1880–1	2,470
OTHER SOURCES.		
Post and telegraphs	1874–5	198,326
	1875–6	209,213
	1876–7	226,597
	1877–8	239,002
	1878–9	244,761
	1879–80	249,414
	1880–1	272,316
Mint charges	1874–5	7,504
	1875–6	7,659
	1876–7	7,512
	1877–8	7,247
	1878–9	7,906
	1879–80	10,158
	1880–1	10,197
Mint subsidy returned	1874–5	4,299
	1875–6	10,695
	1876–7	7,104
	1877–8	447
	1878–9	6,624
	1879–80	6,350
	1880–1	5,628

Heads of Revenue.	Year.	Amounts Received.
OTHER SOURCES.—*cont.*		£
Fines, fees, and forfeitures (exclusive of Land Act penalties) -	1874–5	111,304
	1875–6	112,664
	1876–7	121,676
	1877–8	119,632
	1878–9	113,177
	1879–80	110,639
	1880–1	113,736
Rents (ordinary)	1874–5	749
	1875–6	674
	1876–7	730
	1877–8	824
	1878–9	935
	1879–80	799
	1880–1	921
Reimbursements in aid - -	1874–5	28,981
	1875–6	37,619
	1876–7	34,372
	1877–8	36,774
	1878–9	28,637
	1879–80	23,860
	1880–1	31,290
Interest and exchange -	1874–5	75,025
	1875–6	48,086
	1876–7	95,106
	1877–8	78,080
	1878–9	43,483
	1879–80	46,196
	1880–1	98,454
Miscellaneous receipts -	1874–5	55,770
	1875–6	16,317
	1876–7	19,602
	1877–8	20,449
	1878–9	28,167
	1879–80	24,655
	1880–1	41,124
SUMMARY.		
Total taxation -	1874–5	1,724,822
	1875–6	1,780,392
	1876–7	1,770,685
	1877–8	1,712,953
	1878–9	1,730,088
	1879–80	1,690,923
	1880–1	2,003,704

Heads of Revenue.	Year.	Amounts Received.
SUMMARY—*cont.*		£
Total land revenue -	1874–5	946,753
	1875–6	1,020,012
	1876–7	1,046,415
	1877–8	957,715
	1878–9	969,235
	1879–80	844,064
	1880–1	836,470
Total public works revenue	1874–5	1,106,167
	1875–6	1,081,825
	1876–7	1,183,939
	1877–8	1,312,289
	1878–9	1,343,407
	1879–80	1,590,922
	1880–1	1,700,464
Total revenue from other sources -	1874–5	391,958
	1875–6	442,927
	1876–7	512,699
	1877–8	502,459
	1878–9	473,690
	1879–80	472,071
	1880–1	573,666
TOTAL REVENUE PROPER	1874–5	4,169,700
	1875–6	4,325,156
	1876–7	4,513,738
	1877–8	4,485,412
	1878–9	4,516,420
	1879–80	4,597,980
	1880–1	5,114,304
Recoups from loans and assets realised -	1874–5	66,723
	1875–6	—
	1876–7	210,139
	1877–8	19,001
	1878–9	105,100
	1879–80	23,302
	1880–1	71,707
GRAND TOTAL REVENUE -	1874–5	4,236,423
	1875–6	4,325,156
	1876–7	4,723,877
	1877–8	4,504,413
	1878–9	4,621,520
	1879–80	4,621,282
	1880–1	5,186,011

Heads of expenditure.

68. The following are the heads of expenditure during the last seven financial years, and the amounts expended under each head, distinguishing the expenditure specially appropriated by Acts of Parliament from that voted annually. The expenditure of

amounts subsequently to be recouped has been kept separate from the ordinary disbursements, and appears at the end of the table :—

Heads of Expenditure, 1874–5 *to* 1880–81.

Heads of Expenditure.	Year.	Expenditure from		Total.
		Votes.	Special Appropriations.	
		£	£	£
Legislature	1874–5	15,739	40,813	56,552
	1875–6	15,909	41,612	57,521
	1876–7	14,889	43,918	58,807
	1877–8	15,878	48,162	64,040
	1878–9	16,502	42,710	59,212
	1879–80	16,502	44,306	60,808
	1880–1	16,964	45,664	62,628
Civil list*	1874–5	—	70,984	70,984
	1875–6	—	71,227	71,227
	1876–7	—	29,604	29,604
	1877–8	—	29,564	29,564
	1878–9	—	29,636	29,636
	1879–80	—	27,728	27,728
	1880–1	—	24,509	24,509
Civil establishment †	1874–5	103,681	—	103,681
	1875–6	100,130	—	100,130
	1876–7	102,444	—	102,444
	1877–8	101,175	—	101,175
	1878–9	101,451	—	101,451
	1879–80	104,867	—	104,867
	1880–1	101,022	—	101,022
Judicial and legal	1874–5	156,558	16,417	172,975
	1875–6	154,469	16,125	170,594
	1876–7	154,932	16,750	171,682
	1877–8	154,498	16,567	171,065
	1878–9	158,056	14,000	172,056
	1879–80	157,664	14,000	171,664
	1880–1	142,444	15,047	157,491
Public instruction, science, &c.‡	1874–5	405,662	9,000	414,662
	1875–6	463,776	9,000	472,776
	1876–7	481,409	9,000	490,409
	1877–8	510,175	9,000	519,175
	1878–9	560,673	9,000	569,673
	1879–80	557,579	11,250	568,829
	1880–1	572,477	9,000	581,477

* Including Governor's salary, and salaries of Ministers, Commissioners of Audit, Agent-General, and expenses of Executive Council, in all the years; also Public Worship until the middle of 1875–6, when State Aid was abolished.

† Including cost of the following departments :— Chief Secretary, Government Statist, Short-hand Writer, Agent-General, Audit Office, Registrar of Friendly Societies, Inspector of Stock, Treasury, Stores and Transport, and Government Printer.

‡ Including expenditure under the following heads:—Education; Observatory; Government Botanist; Public Library, Museums, and National Gallery; Grants to Mechanics' Institutes, Free Libraries, &c.; and Grants to School of Mines and Design.

Heads of Expenditure, 1874–5 to 1880–81—continued.

Heads of Expenditure.	Year.	Expenditure from		Total.
		Votes.	Special Appropriations.	
		£	£	£
State school buildings * -	1874–5	181,440	—	181,440
Charitable institutions, medical, &c.† - -	1874–5	273,537	—	273,537
	1875–6	270,318	—	270,318
	1876–7	278,970	—	278,970
	1877–8	281,509	—	281,509
	1878–9	277,016	—	277,016
	1879–80	272,539	—	272,539
	1880–1	241,907	—	241,907
Mining - - - -	1874–5	27,153	3,500	30,653
	1875–6	34,653	3,500	38,153
	1876–7	34,043	3,500	37,543
	1877–8	24,780	3,500	28,280
	1878–9	30,082	3,500	33,582
	1879–80	24,204	3,500	27,704
	1880–1	27,406	3,500	30,906
Police - - - - -	1874–5	198,312	—	198,312
	1875–6	199,738	—	199,738
	1876–7	197,371	—	197,371
	1877–8	207,119	—	207,119
	1878–9	209,041	—	209,041
	1879–80	233,732	—	233,732
	1880–1	207,674	—	207,674
Gaols and penal establishments - - - -	1874–5	60,469	—	60,469
	1875–6	61,051	—	61,051
	1876–7	60,008	—	60,008
	1877–8	58,132	—	58,132
	1878–9	58,442	—	58,442
	1879–80	56,636	—	56,636
	1880–1	53,565	—	53,565
Mint - - - -	1874–5	—	20,000	20,000
	1875–6	—	20,000	20,000
	1876–7	—	18,333	18,333
	1877–8	—	20,000	20,000
	1878–9	—	20,000	20,000
	1879–80	—	20,000	20,000
	1880–1	—	20,000	20,000
Crown lands and survey - -	1874–5	140,246	—	140,246
	1875–6	139,070	—	139,070
	1876–7	164,011	—	164,011
	1877–8	150,248	—	150,248
	1878–9	149,976	—	149,976
	1879–80	155,951	—	155,951
	1880–1	117,189	—	117,189

* Since 1874–5 the amount expended on school buildings has been paid entirely out of loans.

† Including expenditure under the following heads:—Chief Medical Officer; Central Board of Health; Hospitals for Insane; Industrial and Reformatory Schools; and Grants to Charitable Institutions.

Heads of Expenditure, 1874–5 to 1880–81—continued.

Heads of Expenditure.	Year.	Expenditure from		Total.
		Votes.	Special Appropriations.	
		£	£	£
Railways	1874–5	437,931	—	437,931
	1875–6	489,751	—	489,751
	1876–7	562,517	—	562,517
	1877–8	616,207	—	616,207
	1878–9	662,178	—	662,178
	1879–80	771,527	—	771,527
	1880–1	818,601	—	818,601
Water supply	1874–5	17,013	—	17,013
	1875–6	17,192	—	17,192
	1876–7	18,099	—	18,099
	1877–8	22,621	—	22,621
	1878–9	28,501	—	28,501
	1879–80	26,053	—	26,053
	1880–1	32,339	—	32,339
Public works*	1874–5	339,855	315,640	655,495
	1875–6	332,465	347,754	680,219
	1876–7	242,283	310,704	552,987
	1877–8	252,505	310,000	562,505
	1878–9	276,401	310,000	586,401
	1879–80	476,593†	155,000†	631,593
	1880–1	587,593	—	587,593
Customs	1874–5	57,364	—	57,364
	1875–6	56,311	—	56,311
	1876–7	56,186	—	56,186
	1877–8	64,058	—	64,058
	1878–9	59,467	—	59,467
	1879–80	62,226	—	62,226
	1880–1	58,621	—	58,621
Harbours and lights	1874–5	35,035	—	35,035
	1875–6	34,703	—	34,703
	1876–7	29,980	—	29,980
	1877–8	29,017	—	29,017
	1878–9	28,876	—	28,876
	1879–80	29,272	—	29,272
	1880–1	23,448	—	23,448
Defences	1874–5	53,507	—	53,507
	1875–6	58,233	—	58,233
	1876–7	74,020	—	74,020
	1877–8	121,266	—	121,266
	1878–9	118,122	—	118,122
	1879–80	93,779	—	93,779
	1880–1	78,732	—	78,732

* Exclusive of school buildings and of all public works paid for out of loans, but including endowments of municipalities under the Local Government Act. The expenditure on the port of Melbourne included under this head prior to 1st January 1877 has since been paid out of the Harbour Trust Fund; *see* next table.

† The provision of the Local Government Act 1874 authorising the subsidy to municipalities having lapsed on the 31st December 1879, amounts equivalent to the subsidy have since been voted by Parliament. This accounts for the gradual transfer of this item of expenditure from Special Appropriations to Votes.

Heads of Expenditure, 1874–5 *to* 1880–81—*continued.*

Heads of Expenditure.	Year.	Expenditure from		Total.
		Votes.	Special Appropriations.	
		£	£	£
Post and telegraphs*	1874–5	294,726	63,164	357,890
	1875–6	280,981	20,928	301,909
	1876–7	298,467	42,930	341,397
	1877–8	312,958	31,091	344,049
	1878–9	333,120	33,320	366,449
	1879–80	338,088	38,243	376,331
	1880–1	375,533	40,851	416,384
Retiring allowances and pensions.†	1874–5	2,587	26,529	29,116
	1875–6	2,426	27,423	29,849
	1876–7	4,725	26,214	30,939
	1877–8	5,587	28,370	33,957
	1878–9	9,153	33,952	43,105
	1879–80	9,336	35,202	44,538
	1880–1	12,499	36,817	49,316
Gratuities, compensations, &c.†	1874–5	10,884	3,078	13,962
	1875–6	5,963	1,752	7,715
	1876–7	7,187	3,478	10,665
	1877–8	7,146	42,582	49,728
	1878–9	33,444	13,159	46,603
	1879–80	19,416	2,544	21,970
	1880–1	34,085	12,970	47,055
Redemption of loans	1874–5	—	35,000	35,000
	1875–6	—	—	—
	1876–7	—	—	—
	1877–8	—	—	—
	1878–9	—	—	—
	1879–80	—	—	—
	1880–1	—	—	—
Interest	1874–5	—	742,008	742,008
	1875–6	—	793,600	793,600
	1876–7	1,867	816,803	818,670
	1877–8	—	920,911	920,911
	1878–9	3,842	914,698	918,540
	1879–80	—	1,002,722	1,002,722
	1880–1	43,927	1,068,223	1,112,150
Aborigines	1874–5	6,209	—	6,209
	1875–6	6,100	—	6,100
	1876–7	7,500	—	7,500
	1877–8	7,464	—	7,464
	1878–9	10,499	—	10,499
	1879–80	7,500	—	7,500
	1880–1	7,499	—	7,499

* In the years 1876–7 to 1879–80 the amounts under the head of Special Appropriations, which represent the expenditure on account of Steam Postal Communication (including gratuities to masters of vessels), show the net charge on account of the service of each year—the arrears paid by other Governments in each succeeding year on account of the previous one being deducted, are added at the foot of the table as an amount to be recouped. The expenditure for 1880–1 will be probably reduced from this circumstance by about 1,430*l.*

† Extensive reductions in the public service were made in the years 1877–8 to 1879–80, which caused an increase in the amount of retiring allowances and pensions and gratuities.

Heads of Expenditure, 1874–5 to 1880–81—continued.

Heads of Expenditure.	Year.	Expenditure from		Total.
		Votes.	Special Appropriations.	
		£	£	£
Placed to railway loan liquidation and construction account.*	1874–5	—	100,000	100,000
	1875–6	—	300,000	300,000
	1876–7	—	200,000	200,000
	1877–8	—	100,000	100,000
	1878–9	—	200,000	200,000
	1879–80	—	—	—
	1880–1	—	200,000	200,000
Miscellaneous services†	1874–5	30,108	2,500	32,608
	1875–6	30,627	2,500	33,127
	1876–7	21,497	2,500	23,997
	1877–8	31,222	2,500	33,722
	1878–9	39,598	2,500	42,098
	1879–80	32,831	2,500	35,311
	1880–1	68,429	4,000	72,429
TOTAL EXPENDITURE PROPER	1874–5	2,848,016	1,448,633	4,296,649
	1875–6	2,753,866	1,655,421	4,409,287
	1876–7	2,812,405	1,523,734	4,336,139
	1877–8	2,973,565	1,562,247	4,535,812
	1878–9	3,164,440	1,626,484	4,790,924
	1879–80	3,446,295	1,356,995	4,803,290
	1880–1	3,621,954	1,480,581	5,102,535
Amounts to be recouped from loans, &c.	1874–5	21,472	—	21,472
	1875–6	163,556	—	163,556
	1876–7	2,956	19,001	2,957
	1877–8	66,495	32,042	98,537
	1878–9	21,800	20,655	42,155
	1879–80	52,794	18,945	71,739
	1880–1	6,107	—	6,107
GRAND TOTAL EXPENDITURE	1874–5	2,869,488	1,448,633	4,318,121
	1875–6	2,917,422	1,655,421	4,572,843
	1876–7	2,815,361	1,542,735	4,358,096
	1877–8	3,040,060	1,594,289	4,634,349
	1878–9	3,186,240	1,647,139	4,833,379
	1879–80	3,499,089	1,375,940	4,875,029
	1880–1	3,628,061	1,480,581	5,108,642

* This account was created under the Land Act, 1869 (33 Vict. No. 360, secs. 42 and 43), whereby it was provided that an amount of 200,000*l.*, proceeding from the alienation of land, should be placed annually to a trust account, the moneys standing to the credit of which should be available for the repurchase of debentures, or the further construction of railways. The total amount which had been paid to this fund up to the 30th June 1881, all of which had been expended on the survey or construction of lines of railway, was 2,157,959*l.* 7*s.* 8*d.*, viz., 2,000,000*l.* paid in accordance with these provisions, and 157,959*l.* 7*s.* 8*d.* advanced from time to time under the Railway Loan Act 1875 (39 Vict. No. 531), section 11, and the Railway Loan Act, 1878 (42 Vict. No. 608), section 11, which provide that advances to this fund out of the Railway loans may be made in anticipation of the whole sum of money accruing and becoming available, viz., 2,200,000*l.* up to the expiry of the Principal Act, on the 31st December 1880.

† The amounts in the column for Special Appropriations are the unexpended balances of the Pension Fund (Schedule D., Part V.), repaid each year to the revenue,

Taxation.

69. The amounts of which revenue is made up are of two classes, viz., those raised by taxation and those raised otherwise. In Victoria, the former class consisted in 1880–1 of Customs and Excise duties, wharfage rates, port and harbour dues, business licenses, duties on bank notes, duties on estates of deceased persons, a land tax, and stamp duties. The latter class comprised amounts derived from the sale or occupation of Crown lands, from railways, water supply, and other public works, from post and telegraph offices, from fees, fines, and forfeitures, from the labour of prisoners, from the interest on the public account, &c. The following figures show the result of a division of the Victorian revenue upon this principle:—

Taxation, 1880–1.

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Revenue raised by taxation -	2,003,703	17	4
„ otherwise -	3,182,307	10	3
Total - -	5,186,011	7	7

Taxation per head.

70. The amount raised by taxation divided by the estimated mean population of the financial year (860,067*l.*) gives an average of 2*l.* 6*s.* 7*d.* to each individual.

Comparison of taxation 1880–1 with former years.

71. A large increase took place in the gross amount produced by taxation in 1880–1, as compared with previous years. This amount was greater by 312,781*l.* than in 1879–80, and by 106,862*l.* than in 1873–4; the latter being the year in which the sum raised by taxation was next in amount to that in the year under review. The taxation per head was greater in 1880–1 than in any previous year since 1860, except 1867, 1872–3, and 1873–4; and the proportion of taxation to revenue was higher than in any year since 1875–6.

Taxation increased by legislation.

72. Of the increase of 313,000*l.* in the total taxation 1880–1 as compared with the previous year, not less than 117,200*l.* was derived from the operation of new imposts, viz., 84,400*l.* from excise duties on beer and tobacco, and 32,800*l.* being the increased amount yielded by stamp duties, first levied about the middle of the previous year; 82,400*l.* was through accidental causes; and about 100,000*l.* was from increased customs revenue, which is probably the deferred result of increasing the rates of duty in the previous year. Numerous difficulties lie in the way of estimating the extent to which the various heads of revenue are affected by the imposition, increase, or reduction of taxes. An attempt has, however, been made to form such an estimate in the following table for the last six years, which, although giving necessarily imperfect results, will afford some idea of the direction and extent

VICTORIA.

in which the burdens of the people have been added to or reduced during the period :—

Taxes Repealed and Imposed, 1875–6 *to* 1880–1.

Year ended 30th June.	Taxes repealed or reduced.			Taxes imposed or increased.		
	Heads of Taxation.	Estimated loss to the Revenue.		Heads of Taxation.	Estimated gain to the Revenue.	
		During the Financial Year.	In Complete Years.		During the Financial Year.	In Complete Years.
		£	£		£	£
1876	Nil - - -	—	—	Succession duties—*Increased.*— From 5 to 5–10 per cent. on estates over 20,000*l*, - -	*	*
				Tax on bank notes imposed - -	7,200	27,000
1877	Nil - - -	—	—	Nil - - -	—	—
1878	Customs—Wharfage rates for port of Melbourne transferred to Harbour Trust -	85,000	85,000	Land tax imposed -	50,000	124,000
	Various alterations resulting in a net remission of about -	26,000	85,000	Excise—Percentage of publicans' license fees from municipal bodies -	4,600	4,800
				Customs—Stock tax imposed -	28,300	37,000
1879	Nil - - -	—	—	Nil - - -	—	—
1880	- - - -	—	—	Stamp duties imposed - -	83,005	120,000
	Customs—(*See* contra) -	—	—	Customs—Duties increased on—Wine, opium, rice, hops, and malt; several 10 per cent. and 20 per cent. *ad valorem* duties in creased by 5 per cent. besides numerous other alterations, for the most part in the direction of increased duties, about - -	47,800	53,000
1881	Nil - - -	—	—	Customs—Tobacco and snuff increased -	(Revenue decreased.)	*
				Cigars increased -	2,300	3,500
				Excise—Tobacco duty imposed - -	21,972	65,000
				Beer - -	62,557	100,000

* Of this item no satisfactory estimate can be given.

Municipal revenue and expenditure.

73. The following table gives a statement of the revenue, and expenditure of municipalities in the year 1881, the amounts raised

and expended in cities, towns, and boroughs being shown separately from those in shires:—

Municipal Revenue and Expenditure, 1880.

	Cities, Towns, and Boroughs.	Shires.	Total.
REVENUE.	£	£	£
From Government { Endowment -	47,369	282,710	330,079
From Government { Other receipts -	13,148	20,136	33,284
„ rates - - - -	218,313	199,329	417,642
„ licenses - - - -	65,771	29,487	95,258
„ registration of dogs and goats -	5,039	5,272	10,311
„ market dues - - -	37,199	2,096	39,295
„ other sources - - -	70,623	18,468	89,091
Total - - -	457,462	557,498	1,014,960
EXPENDITURE.			
Public works - - - -	249,268	374,747	624,015
Salaries, &c. - - - -	42,397	61,690	104,087
Other expenditure - - -	142,645	67,563	210,208
Total - - -	434,310	504,000	938,310

General and local revenue and expenditure.

74. A statement of the revenue and expenditure of the General Government added to those of the municipalities during the last six years, and to those of the Melbourne Harbour Trust during the five years that body has been in existence, will be found in the following table. From the totals of municipal revenue and expenditure the amounts granted by the state have been deducted:—

General and Local Revenue and Expenditure, 1876 *to* 1881.

	Total Amounts received and expended.					
	1876.	1877.	1878.	1879.	1880.	1881.
Revenue.	£	£	£	£	£	£
General government -	4,325,156	4,723,876	4,504,413	4,621,520	4,621,282	5,186,011
Municipalities - - -	684,691	674,436	639,428	624,681	616,132	651,597
Melbourne Harbour Trust -	—	44,435	86,746	78,517	71,260	86,642
Total - -	5,009,847	5,442,747	5,230,587	5,324,718	5,308,674	5,924,250
Expenditure.						
General government -	4,572,843	4,358,096	4,634,349	4,833,379	4,875,029	5,108,642
Municipalities - -	649,655	632,094	713,503	583,476	771,054	574,947
Melbourne Harbour Trust -	—	16,940	92,136	91,014	103,540	93,890
Total - -	5,222,498	5,007,130	5,439,988	5,507,869	5,749,623	5,777,479

General and local revenue and expenditure per head.

75. The next table gives the general and local revenue and expenditure per head in the same six years. It will be observed that in the last year named the local revenue, embracing that of

VICTORIA.

the municipal bodies, and that of the Harbour Trust, amounted to over 17*s.* per head, and the general and local revenue combined to nearly 7*l.* per head :—

General and Local Revenue and Expenditure per Head, 1876 *to* 1881.

	Amounts received and expended per Head.					
	1876.	1877.	1878.	1879.	1880.	1881.
Revenue.	£ *s.* *d.*	£ *s.* *d.*	£ *s.* *d.*	£ *s.* *d.*	£ *s.* *d.*	£ *s.* *d.*
General government	5 9 4	5 17 10	5 10 6	5 11 8	5 9 11	6 0 7
Municipalities - -	0 17 4	0 16 10	0 15 8	0 15 1	0 14 8	0 15 2
Melbourne Harbour Trust -	—	0 1 1	0 2 1	0 1 11	0 1 9	0 2 0
Total - -	6 6 8	6 15 9	6 8 3	6 8 8	6 6 4	6 17 9
Expenditure.						
General government -	5 15 7	5 8 9	5 13 8	5 16 10	5 16 0	5 18 10
Municipalities - -	0 16 5	0 15 9	0 17 6	0 14 1	0 18 4	0 13 4
Melbourne Harbour Trust -	—	0 0 5	0 2 3	0 2 3	0 2 6	0 2 2
Total - -	6 12 0	6 4 11	6 13 5	6 13 2	6 16 10	6 14 4

General and local taxation.

76. The amount of taxation under the General and Municipal Governments, and under the Melbourne Harbour Trust, is given in the following table for the same years, the items being specified in each case. The principle upon which the items of taxation are separated from the general revenue has been already explained. The local taxation is separated from the whole municipal revenue by rejecting, besides all grants received from the General Government, rents of buildings and land, proceeds of the letting of halls, &c., the balance being considered as taxation. The taxation levied by the Harbour Trust consists only of wharfage rates :—

General and Local Taxation, 1876 *to* 1881.

Heads of Taxation.	Amount received.					
	1876.	1877.	1878.	1879.	1880.	1881.
General Government Taxation.	£	£	£	£	£	£
Customs duties - -	1,550,461	1,522,795	1,459,628	1,351,864	1,353,656	1,450,137
Wharfage rates - -	107,327	109,037	27,820	26,520	24,125	24,641
Ports and harbours - -	22,104	20,993	22,647	20,310	19,194	20,577
Excise:—						
Spirits - -	33,437	34,768	36,309	36,088	41,230	52,232
Beer - - -	—	—	—	—	—	62,557
Tobacco - -	—	—	—	—	—	21,872
Licenses (not territorial) -	10,712	11,688	17,150	20,116	21,762	23,906
Duties on estates of deceased persons - - -	48,963	44,104	72,500	47,983	37,928	78,141
Duties on bank notes -	7,191	27,248	26,672	24,956	22,470	23,807
Land tax - - -	—	—	50,227	202,251	87,553	129,990
Stamp duty - - -	—	—	—	—	83,005	115,844
Toll receipts - -	197	52	—	—	—	—
Total - -	1,780,392	1,770,685	1,712,953	1,730,088	1,690,923	2,003,704

Heads of Taxation.	Amount received.					
	1876.	1877.	1878.	1879.	1880.	1881.
Municipal Taxation.						
Rates - - -	359,266	381,580	401,208	398,303	401,096	417,642
Toll receipts - -	61,055	57,078	13,895	—	—	—
Licenses - - -	108,753	108,367	102,732	98,441	94,713	95,258
Registration of dogs and goats	10,783	10,843	10,293	10,521	10,370	10,311
Market dues - - -	31,248	32,742	32,776	32,095	37,451	39,295
Total - -	571,105	590,610	560,904	539,360	543,630	562,506
Melbourne Harbour Trust Taxation.						
Wharfage rates - -	—	43,106	84,731	75,295	67,827	83,493
Total general and local taxation - -	2,351,497	2,404,401	2,358,588	2,344,743	2,302,380	2,649,703

77. The aggregate amounts of taxation raised by the General Government and local bodies represented, in 1876, a proportion of 2*l.* 19*s.* 5*d.* to each individual in the community; in 1877, 3*l.*; in 1878, 2*l.* 17*s.* 10*d.*; in 1879, 2*l.* 16*s.* 8*d.*; in 1880, 2*l.* 14*s.* 9*d.*; and in 1881, 3*l.* 1*s.* 7*d.* General and local taxation per head.

78. The public debt of Victoria amounted on the 30th June 1881 to 22,593,102*l.*, and consisted of:— Public debt.

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Debentures - -	21,450,220	0	0
Stock - - -	642,881	18	0
Treasury Bonds -	500,000	0	0
Total - -	22,593,101	18	0

79. On the 30th June 1881 the estimated population of Victoria was 867,078. If the amount of debt at the same period be divided by this number, the proportionate indebtedness of each man, woman, and child in the colony will be shown to have been 26*l.* 1*s.* 2*d.* Indebtedness per head.

80. In order to provide for a temporary deficit in the public finances, Treasury bonds of the nominal value of 500,000*l.* were issued towards the close of the year 1880. These bonds were legalised under Act 44 Vict. No. 663. Each bond was of the value of 100*l.*, and bore interest at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum. The bonds were divided into three lots of 166,600*l.*, 166,700*l.*, and 166,700*l.*, redeemable in one, two, and three years respectively, and were successfully disposed of on the 19th October 1880. The tenderers numbered 35, the tenders 78, and the total amount tendered was 1,228,900*l.* The whole of the bonds, however, with the exception of 291 of those for three years, were obtained by one firm. The price obtained for the one year's bonds was 101*l.* 5*s.* 2*d.*; for the two years', 101*l.* 10*s.* 2*d.*; and the average for the three years' was 101*l.* 2*s.* 4*d.* The proceeds of the first was 168,696*l*; of the second, 169,215*l*; and of the third Issue of Treasury bonds.

VICTORIA.

168,564*l.*; or a total of 506,475*l.* The money was thus obtained at the rate of $3\frac{3}{4}$ per cent., $4\frac{1}{4}$ per cent., and $4\frac{3}{5}$ per cent. per annum for the one, two, and three years' bonds respectively.

Redemption of Treasury bonds.

81. The bonds for one year (166,600*l.*) were redeemed in due course on the 1st November 1881, and subsequently, on the 13th February 1882, the revenue being in a flourishing condition, the sum of 166,700*l.*, representing the whole of the bonds for two years, and the sum of 137,000*l.*, being portion of those for three years, or in all 304,300*l.*, was paid off. The balance outstanding was thus reduced to 29,100*l.*, which the Treasurer is prepared at any time to discharge.

Marriages, 1881.

82. The marriages celebrated in Victoria during 1881 numbered 5,896, as against 5,286, in the previous year. The excess in favour of 1881 was thus 610.

Marriages 1881 and former years.

The number of marriages compared with the total population is generally called the marriage rate. This for many years had been declining in Victoria, for, whilst in the three years prior to 1863 it was above 8 per 1,000 of both sexes and all ages, from 1863 to 1865 it was between 7 and 8, and between 1868 and 1878 it was between 6 and 7, per 1,000. It reached its lowest point, 5·98, in 1879, revived in 1880, to 6·22, and further advanced in 1881, to 6·79, this being the highest rate recorded during the past twelve years. The following table gives the number of marriages and number of persons married per 1,000 of the population during each of the twenty-two years ended with 1881 :—

Annual Marriage Rate, 1860 *to* 1881.

Year.	Per 1,000 of the Mean Population.	
	Number of Marriages.	Number of Persons Married.
1860	8·15	16·30
1861	8·21	16·42
1862	8·26	16·52
1863	7·51	15·02
1864	7·77	15·54
1865	7·36	14·72
1866	6·76	13·52
1867	6·97	13·94
1868	7·08	14·16
1869	6·89	13·78
1870	6·63	13·26
1871	6·37	12·74
1872	6·36	12·72
1873	6·50	13·00
1874	6·33	12·66
1875	6·33	12·66
1876	6·21	12·42
1877	6·31	12·62
1878	6·20	12·40
1879	5·98	11·96
1880	6·22	12·44
1881	6·79	13·58
Average of twenty-two years	6·78	13·56

83. The frequency of marriage in a community depends primarily upon the number of single males at marriageable ages existing therein, modified by the extent to which such males find themselves in prosperous circumstances; therefore, as has been shown in previous issues of this work, marriage rates calculated upon a comparison of the marriages with the total population, which is the ordinary method pursued in all countries which compile vital statistics, and is the principle on which those embodied in the last table have been computed, are not reliable, especially in young communities, in the composition of which great and sudden changes sometimes take place in consequence of accessions of population from without, followed by periods in which immigration is at a standstill. A more correct method of calculating the marriage rate is to compare the marriages with the number of marriageable males, by which means the children, the married men, and the females, all of which are disturbing elements in the calculation when made in the ordinary way, are left out of account. There are circumstances which may cause variations in the rate calculated in this manner, such as an abnormally large or small proportion of males between 21 and 30, which is essentially the marrying age, or of widowers, the tendency of whom to marry is much greater than that of bachelors; but, notwithstanding these objections, the test, upon the whole, is a much safer one than if based on a marriage rate calculated upon the whole population.

Marriage rate some times misleading.

84. The following table gives a statement of the marriage rate in the last five census years,* calculated, first, by comparing the number of marriages with the total population enumerated, and, secondly, by comparing the number of marriages with the number of marriageable men. The numbers refer only to population of European birth or extraction, the Chinese and Aborigines, and the marriages in which they took part, having been eliminated therefrom :—

Proportion of marriages to population and single men.

Proportion of Marriages to Population and to Marriageable Males, 1854 *to* 1881.

Year of Census.*	Exclusive of Chinese and Aborigines.				
	Total Population.	Bachelors aged 20 and upwards, and Widowers at all ages.	Marriages in Census years.*	Proportion of Marriages.	
				Per 1,000 of the Population.	Per 1,000 Bachelors and Widowers.
1854 -	234,361	70,865	3,696	15·77	52·16
1857 -	383,668	95,427	4,465	11·64	46·79
1861 -	513,896	106,940	4,528	8·81	42·34
1871 -	712,263	89,921	4,715	6·62	52·43
1881 -	849,438	99,824	5,732	6·75	57·42

* Periods commencing six months before and ending six months after the date of each census.

VICTORIA.

Tendency to marry greater than at any former period.

85. The last column but one, which gives the marriage rate calculated according to the principle generally adopted, shows a very considerable decrease at each period, as compared with the previous one, until 1881, when as compared with 1871, a slight revival is indicated. Supposing the frequency of marriage to denote prosperity, a consideration of this column alone would lead to the conclusion that at the last two periods the Colony was in a depressed condition, not only as compared with the time when the excitement caused by the early gold discoveries often led to matrimony being entered into recklessly, but as compared with 1861, when that excitement had subsided. The numbers in the last column, however, tell a very different tale, those for 1861 showing that, at that period, marriage, taking into account those of an age and condition fit to contract it, was less common than at any other; and the latest period was that at which the marriage rate, calculated according to the more correct principle, was higher than at any previous period for which records are available.

Marriage rate of females.

86. I have spoken of females as amongst the disturbing elements which ought to be eliminated in making calculations of the marriage rate, and this statement will doubtless cause surprise to many; but nothing is more certain than that, in countries where monogamy prevails, a comparatively small proportion of females, much smaller than is generally supposed, suffices to enable any man desirous of marrying to obtain a wife. At the present time, when, in proportion to the single men living, the number marrying is higher than at any previous period of the colony's history, only one in 17 actually does marry annually, and there is no reason to suppose that, if the total number of females in the Colony was equal to or even exceeded that of males, the marriages would be more numerous, or if it was reduced by half, that the marriages would be fewer than they are now. This will be better understood by reference to the following table, which shows the number of marriageable females, and the proportion of them which married in each of the last five census years.

Proportion of Marriages to Marriageable Females, 1854 *to* 1881.

Year of Census.	Exclusive of Chinese and Aborigines.	
	Spinsters aged 15 and upwards, and Widows at all ages.	Proportion of Marriages per 1,000 Spinsters and Widows.
1854 - - -	15,083	245·04
1857 - - -	26,317	169·66
1861 - - -	37,006	122·36
1871 - - -	65,386	72·11
1881 - - -	119,360	48·02

87. It will be seen that the fact of marriageable females being numerous has at no period caused any increase in their marriage rate; but, on the contrary, as the number of such females has increased, the rate at which they have married has largely declined. A comparison of this and the previous table will show that in 1881, for the first time, marriageable females exceeded marriageable males, the excess being nearly 20,000, or about a fifth. Notwithstanding this, however, only 5,732 out of the whole number, amounting to over 119,000, got married in the year; the proportion of females marrying to those ready to marry being much smaller than at any previous period.

Female marriage rate declining.

88. The declension in the female marriage rate will be better realised when it is considered that in 1854 about 1 in 4 of all the spinsters and widows in the Colony married in the year, which proportion, three years after, had fallen to 1 in 6; 10 years later it had fallen to 1 in 8; ten years still later it had fallen to 1 in 14; and ten years later, viz., in 1881, it had reached the exceedingly low point of 1 in 21. The tide has probably now turned; the youthful native-born male population is growing up to manhood, and is commencing to fill the gap in early adult life caused by the passing on to later periods of the immigrants who, at the time of the discovery of the first gold fields, came to Victoria unaccompanied by persons at younger ages to supply their places as they passed onward or disappeared altogether from the scene; and it may be expected that, if the Colony continues to enjoy a fair amount of prosperity, the marriages will increase in proportion to the available females, as they have already done in proportion to the available males.

Probability of female marriage rate reviving.

89. The births registered in Victoria during 1881 numbered 27,145, as against 26,148 in 1880. The increase in the year under review, as compared with the previous one, was thus 997.

Births, 1881.

90. The birth rate had been declining steadily for many years until 1881. It recovered itself slightly in that year, and was higher than in 1880, but it was lower than in any previous year. The following are the figures for the last 22 years:—

Birth rate.

Annual Birth Rate, 1860 to 1881.

	Births per 1,000 of Mean Population.
1860	42·81
1861	43·46
862	44·50
1863	42·46
1864	43·79
1865	42·40
1866	39·76
1867	39·75
1868	41·08
1869	37·89

	Births per 1,000 of Mean Population.
1870 - - - -	38·07
1871 - - - -	37·15
1872 - - - -	36·33
1873 - - - -	36·71
1874 - - - -	34·46
1875 - - - -	33·94
1876 - - - -	33·61
1877 - - - -	32·17
1878 - - - -	32·36
1879 - - - -	32·18
1880 - - - -	30·75
1881 - - - -	31·24
Average of twenty-two years -	36·93

Proportion of births to population aud to married women.

91. Birth rates, based upon a comparison of the number of events with the total population are, like marriage rates, calculated upon a similar basis, apt to mislead, unless the population is in a normal condition. It must be quite evident that, if there is not a sufficient proportion of married women at the fruitful or child-bearing ages in a community, the birth rate is not likely to be high, but that an excess of such women would probably cause a high birth rate. This will be made apparent by the following table, which shows the birth rate, calculated upon the total population and upon the number of married women at the child-bearing period of life, in the last two census years:—

Proportion of Births to Population and to Married Women.

Year of Census.	Enumerated Population.	Married Women under 45 Years of Age.	Legitimate Births.	Proportion of Legitimate Births.	
				Per 1,000 of the Population.	Per 1,000 Married Women under 45 Years of Age.
1871 -	731,528	88,561	26,805	36·64	302·67
1881 -	862,346	84,831	25,675	29·77	302·66

Reason for decline of birth rate.

92. It will be noticed that the married women at reproductive ages were fewer by 3,730 in 1881 than in 1871, that the proportion of births to such women, viz., 302⅔ per 1,000, was exactly the same in both years, but that the proportion of births to the total

population was considerably less in 1881 than in 1871. Thus while the birth rate, based upon a comparison of the births with the married women, remained perfectly steady, that rate based upon a comparison of the births with the population showed a falling off of nearly 7 per 1,000. The reduction in the birth rate, calculated in the ordinary way, which has been noticed for years past is therefore conclusively shown to be due to a deficiency in the community of married women at the fruitful period of life. As after a time of depression both marriage and birth rates improved in 1881, it may fairly be hoped that the lowest point has been reached, and that an increase in the number of married women will lead to a corresponding increase in births.

Deaths, 1881.

93. The deaths in 1881 numbered 12,302, as against 11,652 in 1880. The increase in the year under notice was thus 650.

Excess of births over deaths.

94. The births in 1881 exceeded the deaths by 14,843, or 121 per cent. as against 124 per cent. in 1880. In the sixteen years ended with 1881 the proportion averaged 124 per cent. The following were the births and deaths in each of those sixteen years, and the excess of the former over the latter. It will be noticed that the births more than doubled the deaths in all the years except 1875 and 1876, when the mortality was swelled by the presence of epidemics:—

Excess of Births over Deaths, 1866 *to* 1881.

Year.	Births.	Deaths.	Excess of Births over Deaths.	
			Numerical.	Centesimal.
				Per Cent.
1866 - - -	25,010	12,286	12,724	104
1867 - - -	25,608	11,733	13,875	118
1868 - - -	27,243	10,067	17,176	171
1869 - - -	26,040	10,630	15,410	145
1870 - - -	27,151	10,420	16,731	161
1871 - - -	27,382	9,918	17,464	176
1872 - - -	27,361	10,831	16,530	153
1873 - - -	28,100	11,501	16,599	144
1874 - - -	26,800	12,222	14,578	119
1875 - - -	26,720	15,287	11,433	75
1876 - - -	26,769	13,561	13,208	97
1877 - - -	26,010	12,776	13,234	104
1878 - - -	26,581	12,702	13,879	109
1879 - - -	26,839	12,120	14,719	121
1880 - - -	26,148	11,652	14,496	124
1881 - - -	27,145	12,302	14,843	121
Total in 16 years -	426,907	190,008	236,899	124

Annual death rate.

95. The following table shows the death rate of males and females, and of both sexes, during each of the past 21 years. It will also be noticed that the death rate in all the years,

VICTORIA.

except 1861 and 1862, bore more hardly upon males than upon females:—

Annual Death Rate, 1861 *to* 1881.

Year.	Estimated mean Population.		Number of Deaths.		Deaths per 1,000 of the mean Population.		
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Total.
1861 - -	324,988	214,836	6,124	4,398	18·84	20·47	19·49
1862 - -	322,916	225,164	5,900	4,180	18·27	18·56	18·39
1863 - -	325,680	237,280	5,646	3,856	17·34	16·25	16·88
1864 - -	335,272	251,178	5,202	3,685	15·51	14·67	15·15
1865 - -	347,083	264,135	6,158	4,303	17·74	16·29	17·11
1866 - -	353,941	275,097	7,016	5,270	19·82	19·16	19·53
1867 - -	359,642	284,634	6,613	5,120	18·39	17·99	18·21
1868 - -	367,752	295,340	5,865	4,202	15·95	14·23	15·18
1869 - -	379,396	307,806	6,221	4,409	16·40	14·32	15·47
1870 - -	392,159	321,036	6,114	4,306	15·59	13·41	14·61
1871 - -	403,319	333,686	5,845	4,073	14·49	12·21	13·46
1872 - -	409,081	344,117	6,308	4,523	15·42	13·14	14·38
1873 - -	412,597	352,914	6,565	4,936	15·91	13·99	15·02
1874 - -	416,725	360,931	6,994	5,228	16·78	14·48	15·72
1875 - -	419,779	367,558	8,563	6,724	20·40	18·29	19·42
1876 - -	422,931	373,627	7,716	5,845	18·24	15·64	17·02
1877 - -	427,727	380,878	7,345	5,431	17·17	14·26	15·80
1878 - -	433,153	388,313	7,179	5,523	16·57	14·22	15·46
1879 - -	438,563	395,467	7,033	5,087	16·04	12·86	14·53
1880 - -	446,445	403,898	6,610	5,042	14·81	12·48	13·70
1881 - -	456,107	412,835	7,024	5,278	15·40	12·78	14·16
Average of twenty-one years - - -					16·91	15·22	16·12

NOTE.—In 1861, 1866, and 1875, and to a certain extent in the preceding and in the succeeding years, the death rate was swelled by epidemics of measles and scarlatina.

Normal death rate.

96. It has been held by high authority that in countries in which the climate is healthy, hygiene properly attended to, and the population in a normal condition as regards age, the ordinary mortality incident to human nature would probably cause the death rate to be in the proportion of about 17 per 1,000 persons living. It should, however, be borne in mind that death rates based merely upon the total population, in common with birth and marriage rates calculated upon a like basis, are not always fair tests of the state of a community. If the proportion of very young or old people is high, the death rate will be also high; but if, on the other hand, the number of persons at the middle ages is excessive, the death rate will be low. It will be remarked that the mortality exceeded 17 per 1,000 seven times in the 21 years named in the table, but over the whole period it has been very little over 16 per 1,000. In the last five years it has never been so high as 16 per 1,000, in three of those years it has been below 15, and in one below 14 per 1,000.

Low mortality in census years 1871 and 1881.

97. It has happened that the last two census years, viz., 1871 and 1881, were years of exceptionally low mortality. In 1871 the death rate of both males and females were the lowest recorded during the whole period of twenty-one years, after which, and the death rate in 1880, the next lowest death rate was in 1881. However satisfactory it may be on general grounds that a low rate of mortality should prevail at any time, such a circumstance occurring at two successive census periods is apt to mislead those

who attempt, without due allowance, to base conclusions upon the relations which exists between the number of deaths and the population of the colony, as derived from the results of the census years alone.

Imports, exports, and trade, 1881.

98. In 1881 the total declared value of the imports was 16,718,521*l.*, and that of the exports 16,252,103*l.*, the excess of imports over exports was therefore 466,418*l.*, and the whole value of the external trade of the colony was 32,970,624*l.*

Imports and exports, 1880 and 1881 compared.

99. The value of imports was greater in 1881 than in 1880 by 2,161,627*l.*; and the value of exports was greater than in that year by 297,544*l.* It should be pointed out, however, that the value of imports was exceptionally low in 1880.

Imports and exports, 1881 and former years.

100. The imports in 1881, as indicated by their value, were only exceeded in three previous years, viz.:—1874 by 235,464*l.*, 1857 by 537,688*l.*, and 1854 by 940,530*l.* The exports in 1881 were the highest in any year of the colony's history.

Imports and exports per head.

101. Since 1851, the year in which gold was discovered in Victoria, the imports per head of the population have exceeded those in 1881 in all but six of the years, the exceptions being 1880, 1879, 1872, 1871, 1870, and 1867; and the exports per head have also exceeded those in 1881 in all but five of the years viz., 1879, 1878, 1876, 1872, and 1870. The value per head of external trade, as measured by the sum of the imports and exports, was less in 1881 than in all but eight of those years, viz., the three years 1878 to 1880, 1876, the three years 1870 to 1872, and 1867. The following table shows the value of imports and exports per head in each year commencing with that in which Victoria was separated from New South Wales:—

Imports and Exports per Head, 1851 *to* 1881.

Year.	Value per Head of the Population of		
	Imports.	Exports.	Both.
	£ *s.* *d.*	£ *s.* *d.*	£ *s.* *d.*
1851 - -	12 3 4	16 7 9	28 11 1
1852 - -	30 12 5	56 1 4	86 13 9
1853 - -	81 1 9	56 12 4	137 14 1
1854 - -	66 0 11	44 0 10	110 1 9
1855 - -	35 9 10	39 17 8	75 7 6
1856 - -	39 5 6	40 13 3	79 18 9
1857 - -	40 2 0	35 0 10	75 2 10
1858 - -	31 4 6	28 18 3	60 2 9
1859 - -	30 4 1	26 16 3	57 0 4
1860 - -	28 5 3	22 5 5	50 10 8
1861 - -	25 1 4	25 12 5	50 13 9
1862 - -	24 12 2	23 15 7	48 7 9
1863 - -	25 1 6	24 1 11	49 3 5
1864 - -	25 10 8	23 13 11	49 4 7
1865 - -	21 13 9	21 10 3	43 4 0
1866 - -	23 9 7	20 9 9	43 19 4
1867 - -	18 2 4	19 15 0	37 17 4

Year.	Value per Head of the Population of		
	Imports.	Exports.	Both.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1868 - -	20 1 9	23 10 4	43 12 1
1869 - -	20 4 11	19 11 10	39 16 9
1870 - -	17 9 3	17 9 8	34 18 11
1871 - -	16 14 11	19 15 1	36 10 0
1872 - -	18 3 6	18 8 4	36 11 10
1873 - -	21 12 0	19 19 10	41 11 10
1874 - -	21 16 0	19 17 2	41 13 2
1875 - -	21 3 11	18 15 1	39 19 0
1876 - -	19 14 4	17 16 6	37 10 10
1877 - -	20 4 9	18 14 11	38 19 8
1878 - -	19 13 6	18 3 5	37 16 11
1879 - -	18 0 7	14 18 8	32 19 3
1880 - -	17 2 5	18 15 3	35 17 8
1881 - -	19 4 10	18 14 1	37 18 11

Imports and exports the produce of various countries.

102. The value of the imports into Victoria of articles entered as being the produce or manufacture of the United Kingdom, of other British Dominions, and of foreign states, and the value of the exports from Victoria of articles entered as the produce or manufacture of the same countries and of the colony itself, also the percentage of such values to the total value of imports and exports in 1881, will be found in the following table:—

Imports and Exports the Produce of different Countries, 1881.

Articles, the Produce or Manufacture of	Imports.		Exports.	
	Value.	Per-centage.	Value.	Per-centage.
	£		£	
Victoria - - -	—	—	12,480,567	76·79
The United Kingdom -	7,152,892	42·79	1,272,492	7·84
Other British Possessions -	6,838,395	40·90	1,778,578	10·94
Foreign States - -	2,727,234	16·31	720,466	4·43
Total - -	16,718,521	100·00	16,252,103	100·00

Exports of Victorian produce.

103. It will be observed that 77 per cent. of the exports were set down as the produce or manufacture of Victoria. This is a higher proportion than that which prevailed in any other year since 1866, except 1867, 1872, and 1873, as will be seen by the following table, which gives the total value and value per head of

articles of Victorian produce exported, and their proportion to the total exports, in each of the fifteen years ended with 1881:—

Exports of Victorian Produce, 1867 *to* 1881.

Year.	Exports of Articles produced or manufactured in Victoria.		
	Total Value.	Value per Head of the Population.	Per-centage of Total Exports.
	£	£ s. d.	
1867 - -	9,972,333	15 9 7	78·37
1868 - -	11,697,893	17 12 10	75·02
1869 - -	9,539,816	13 17 8	70·85
1870 - -	9,103,323	12 15 3	73·00
1871 - -	11,151,622	15 2 7	76·60
1872 - -	10,758,658	14 5 8	77·56
1873 - -	11,876,707	15 10 4	77·61
1874 - -	11,352,515	14 12 0	73·52
1875 - -	10,571,806	13 8 6	71·59
1876 - -	10,155,916	12 15 0	71·54
1877 - -	11,269,086	13 18 9	74·35
1878 - -	10,676,499	12 19 11	71·53
1879 - -	8,069,857	9 13 6	64·80
1880 - -	11,220,467	13 3 11	70·33
1881 - -	12,480,567	14 7 3	76·79

Trade with various countries, 1881.

104. In 1881, 45 per cent. of the Victorian imports, according to value, were from, and 48 per cent. of the exports were to, the United Kingdom. Thirty-six per cent. of the former, and 29 per cent. of the latter, were conveyed between Victoria and the neighbouring colonies, chiefly New South Wales. Nearly 19 per cent. of the exports were to countries grouped under the head of "other British possessions," the articles being chiefly gold and specie sent to Ceylon, intended generally, no doubt, for further shipment to the United Kingdom. The value of the imports from, and the exports to, the different countries, and the percentage of such values to the total imports and exports, are given in the following table:—

Imports from, and Exports to, different Countries, 1881.

Countries.	Imports therefrom.		Exports thereto.	
	Value.	Per-centage.	Value.	Per-centage.
	£		£	
New South Wales - -	4,552,771	27·23	2,464,657	15·16
Queensland - - -	17,728	·11	27,422	·17
South Australia - - -	261,662	1·57	782,740	4·82
Western Australia - -	10,938	·07	77,656	·48
Tasmania - - - -	393,855	2·36	581,500	3·57
New Zealand - - -	712,776	4·26	802,467	4·94
Total Australasia - -	5,949,730	35·60	4,736,442	29·14

Countries.	Imports therefrom.		Exports thereto.	
	Value.	Per-centage.	Value.	Per-centage.
	£		£	
The United Kingdom - -	7,518,095	44·96	7,784,025	47·90
Other British Possessions - -	1,414,836	8·46	3,061,293	18·84
The United States - -	471,572	2·82	75,186	·46
Other Foreign States - -	1,364,288	8·16	595,157	3·66
Total - -	16,718,521	100·00	16,252,103	100·00

Imports of principal articles at three periods.

105. The values of sixty-one of the principal articles imported in 1881 and in the first year of each of the two previous quinquenniads are placed side by side in the following table:—

Imports of principal Articles, 1871, 1876, *and* 1881.

Order.	Articles.	Value of Imports.		
		1871.	1876.	1881.
		£	£	£
1	Books - - - -	79,272	155,525	198,288
	Stationery - - - -	47,193	58,292	83,455
2	Musical Instruments - - -	27,643	70,734	93,684
6	Watches, clocks, and watchmakers' materials.	16,410	62,638	68,248
9	Cutlery - - - -	22,544	52,820	23,426
	Machinery - - - -	50,826	93,234	103,337
	Tools and utensils - - -	61,716	57,686	40,165
13	Furniture and upholstery - -	30,818	54,311	55,226
14	Drugs and chemicals - - -	57,190	65,608	76,316
	Matches and vestas - - -	26,760	55,719	43,597
	Opium - - - -	94,455	104,561	54,820
	Paints and colours - - -	30,484	37,259	51,133
15	Carpeting and druggeting - -	26,912	54,771	73,035
	Woollens and woollen piece goods -	601,007	789,183	793,088
16	Silks - - - - -	179,524	258,454	263,946
17	Cottons - - - -	318,853	648,697	872,691
	Linen piece goods, &c. - -	32,895	46,639	23,251
18	Drapery - - - -	118,472	—*	—*
	Haberdashery - - -	119,025	203,161	326,394
19	Apparel and slops - - -	249,403	304,044	279,767
	Boots and shoes - - -	249,811	200,040	105,379
	Gloves - - - -	31,151	62,925	89,512
	Hats, caps, and bonnets - -	90,484	129,866	118,917
	Hosiery - - - -	81,582	135,243	105,124
	Millinery - - - -	74,437	16,239	—*
20	Bags and sacks (including woolpacks)	59,484	161,226	208,169
21	Butter and cheese - - -	14,870	2,022	813
	Fish - - - - -	93,178	111,296	132,569
	Meats—fresh, preserved, and salted -	12,696	13,001	8,826
22	Flour and biscuit - - -	88,315	8,282	3,536

* In 1876 and 1881 articles formerly comprised under the head of Drapery, and in 1881 those under the head of Millinery, were distributed under other headings.

Order.	Articles.	Value of Imports.		
		1871.	1876.	1881.
		£	£	£
	Fruit (including currants and raisins)	141,152	146,836	186,876
	Grain—oats	151,981	138,499	87,888
	„ wheat	297,010	87,725	22,928
	„ other (including malt and rice)	377,638	370,974	235,699
	Sugar and molasses	1,017,420	1,086,251	1,004,869
23	Beer, cider, and perry	149,104	158,167	161,673
	Coffee	62,339	73,322	68,271
	Hops	67,251	82,793	42,332
	Spirits	355,263	507,341	426,864
	Tea	510,055	672,883	942,603
	Tobacco, cigars, and snuff	204,418	291,066	185,815
	Wine	64,766	179,167	131,426
24	Candles	116,908	28,435	57,327
	Hides, skins, and pelts	31,906	100,917	96,084
	Leather, leatherware, and leather cloth	39,757	120,350	143,697
	Wool	218,703*	2,179,184	2,887,265
25	Paper (including paper bags)	99,054	168,430	188,270
	Timber	172,802	324,189	481,925
26	Oil of all kinds	263,565	148,683	203,760
28	Coal	179,681	277,531	313,581
29	Earthenware, brownware, & chinaware	34,926	85,978	83,013
	Glass and glassware	45,268	93,793	87,721
31	Gold (exclusive of specie)	1,317,018	553,821	790,243
	Specie—gold	1,190,405	10,000	40
	„ other	1,447	4,110	113,956
	Jewellery	37,834	43,233	73,075
32	Iron and steel (exclusive of railway rails, telegraph wire, &c.)	254,073	653,413	479,887
	Nails and screws	31,250	58,462	50,993
33	Live stock	695,388	1,203,650	757,276
35	Fancy goods	34,977	40,200	59,067
	Hardware and ironmongery	72,230	86,257	116,373
	Oilmen's stores	43,651	17,272	15,234
	Total	11,266,650	14,006,408	14,792,743

* Not including the value of wool imported into Victoria across the Murray.

106. The exports of forty-one of the principal articles are in like manner given for the same three years :— Exports of principal articles at three periods.

Exports of principal Articles, 1871, 1876, *and* 1881.

Order.	Articles.	Value of Exports.		
		1871.	1876.	1881.
		£	£	£
1	Books	10,219	42,611	80,324
	Stationery	24,829	49,032	39,396
9	Machinery	38,339	75,692	122,464
15	Woollens and woollen piece goods	22,197	98,611	92,492

Order.	Articles.	Value of Exports. 1871.	1876.	1881.
		£	£	£
18	Drapery - - - -	251,885	—	—
19	Apparel and slops - -	26,959	205,837	278,756
	Boots and shoes - - -	42,676	82,496	93,012
21	Butter and cheese - - -	21,419	54,113	100,987
	Meats—fresh and preserved - -	355,273	166,586	113,426
	„ salted (including hams and bacon)	9,202	7,390	29,117
22	Flour and biscuit - - -	32,014	40,064	241,386
	Grain—oats - - - -	312	26,069	12,964
	„ wheat - - -	5,850	478	689,254
	„ other (including malt and rice)	43,626	72,893	104,451
	Potatoes - - - -	19,877	65,242	57,091
	Sugar and molasses - - -	191,362	245,475	277,562
23	Coffee - - - - -	20,910	30,884	32,480
	Spirits - - - -	86,805	136,681	110,012
	Tea - - - - -	196,463	251,116	292,606
	Tobacco, cigars, and snuff - -	146,651	212,874	154,545
	Wine - - - - -	33,904	68,576	42,964
24	Bones and bone-dust - - -	23,610	16,521	13,774
	Candles - - - -	16,477	62,161	11,690
	Hides - - - - -	4,795	2,996	6,239
	Horns and hoofs - - -	2,774	3,733	1,118
	Leather and leatherware - -	160,862	199,592	329,006
	Skins and pelts - - -	35,063	56,056	108,664
	Soap - - - - -	3,542	6,951	12,496
	Tallow - - - -	469,069	174,507	247,372
	Wool* - - - -	4,702,164	6,413,754	5,450,066
25	Bark - - - - -	6,155	60,386	21,163
	Hay, straw, and chaff - - -	8,665	56,524	81,196
26	Oil of all kinds - - -	63,208	78,760	68,192
31	Gold (exclusive of specie) - -	6,590,962	2,103,591	1,646,930
	Specie—gold - - - -	347,513	1,587,104	3,090,999
	„ silver - - - -	4,935	7,239	480
32	Antimony ore, regulus, &c. -	17,412	41,733	14,284
	Copper ore, regulus, &c. - -	1,359	533	15,975
	Tin, tin ore, and black sand - -	19,100	5,844	2,518
33	Live stock - - - -	48,921	153,024	459,254
35	Hardware and ironmongery - -	40,159	46,556	70,739
	Total - - -	14,147,517	13,010,285	14,617,444

* Wool from across the Murray is included in the export returns of all the years. It was not included in the import returns prior to 1872.

Vessels inwards and outwards.

107. Partly, no doubt, owing to the increased number of large steamers trading to Melbourne, the tonnage of vessels entering and leaving Victorian ports was greater in 1881 than in any former year; but these seem to have to a certain extent supplanted smaller vessels, as a falling off in the number of vessels took place in 1879, which has been only partially recovered from since. The following table contains a statement of the number, tonnage, and

crews of vessels, inwards and outwards, during the fourteen years, ended with 1881:—

Vessels entered and cleared, 1868 *to* 1881.

Year.	Vessels entered.			Vessels cleared.			Total entered and cleared.	
	No.	Tons.	Men.	No.	Tons.	Men.	No.	Tons.
1868	2,067	653,362	33,613	2,172	685,207	35,332	4,239	1,338,569
1869	2,320	721,274	35,628	2,334	730,961	35,696	4,654	1,452,235
1870	2,093	663,764	32,838	2,187	681,098	33,836	4,280	1,344,862
1871	2,137	663,002	33,789	2,257	692,023	35,050	4,394	1,355,025
1872	2,104	666,336	33,551	2,234	694,426	35,353	4,338	1,360,762
1873	2,187	756,103	36,307	2,226	762,912	36,216	4,413	1,519,015
1874	2,100	777,110	36,834	2,122	792,509	36,472	4,222	1,569,619
1875	2,171	840,386	38,681	2,223	833,499	38,454	4,394	1,673,885
1876	2,086	810,062	38,960	2,150	847,026	39,600	4,236	1,657,088
1877	2,192	939,661	43,928	2,219	935,324	43,786	4,411	1,874,985
1878	2,119	951,750	43,082	2,173	961,677	43,391	4,292	1,913,427
1879	2,084	963,087	43,676	2,083	977,135	43,648	4,167	1,940,222
1880	2,076	1,078,885	51,585	2,115	1,101,014	52,153	4,191	2,179,899
1881	2,125	1,219,231	54,792	2,123	1,192,671	54,521	4,248	2,411,902

Nationality of vessels.

108. Of the vessels inwards and outwards during 1881, 81 per cent., embracing 55 per cent of the tonnage, were Colonial; 14 per cent., embracing 38 per cent. of the tonnage, were British; and 5 per cent., embracing 7 per cent. of the tonnage, were Foreign. Of the crews entering and leaving Victorian ports in 1881, 61 per cent. were attached to Colonial, 35 per cent. to British, and 4 per cent. to Foreign vessels. The following are the figures from which these proportions have been derived:—

Nationality of Vessels entered and cleared, 1881.

Nationality.	Vessels entered.			Vessels cleared.		
	Number.	Tons.	Men.	Number.	Tons.	Men.
Colonial - -	1,713	660,004	32,947	1,748	672,796	33,773
British - -	314	479,266	19,645	282	442,621	18,602
Foreign - -	98	79,961	2,200	93	77,254	2,146
Total -	2,125	1,219,231	54,792	2,123	1,192,671	54,521

Postal returns.

109. The following figures show the number of post offices throughout the colony, and the number of letters, packets, and newspapers which passed through them in the last two years. An increase is to be observed in all the items:—

Postal Returns, 1880 *and* 1881.

Year.	Number of Post Offices.	Number despatched and received of			
		Letters.	Newspapers.	Packets.	Total.
1880 -	1,100	24,195,149	10,640,540	3,558,480	38,394,169
1881 -	1,158	26,308,347	11,440,732	4,213,625	41,962,704
Increase -	58	2,113,198	800,192	655,145	3,568,535

VICTORIA.

Proportion of letters to population.

110. The letters despatched and received were, to each head of the population, in the proportion of 28·6 in 1880, and of 30·3 in 1881.

Miles open and travelled.

111. The following is a statement of the number of miles of railway open and the number travelled; also of the passengers and goods carried during 1880 and 1881. It must be borne in mind that in both years only a portion of the extent set down as open was so during the whole year. All the items show increase:—

Railways.—Miles open and Travelled, and Passengers and Goods Carried, 1880 *and* 1881.

Year.	Extent Opened.	Distance Travelled.	Passengers.	Goods.
	Miles.	Miles.	No.	Tons.
1880 - -	1,199	4,380,802	15,999,459	1,258,254
1881 - -	1,247	4,633,267	18,973,070	1,421,530
Increase -	48	252,465	2,974,611	163,276

Receipts and working expenses.

112. The following were the railway receipts and working expenses during 1880 and 1881:—

Railways.—Receipts and Working Expenses, 1880 *and* 1881.

Year.	Receipts.				Working Expenses.	Net Income.	Proportion of Working Expenses to Receipts.
	Passenger Fares.	Freight on Goods.	Sundries.	Total.			
	£	£	£	£	£	£	
1880 -	567,193	743,422	182,302	1,492,917	814,075	678,842	54·53
1881 -	654,931	817,979	192,299	1,665,209	913,572	751,637	54·86
Increase	87,738	74,557	9,997	172,292	99,497	72,795	·33

Increase in railway receipts, &c.

113. A very large increase will be noticed in the receipts for passenger fares and freight, and a slight increase under the head of sundries. A large increase also appears in the working expenses, and a small increase (about $\frac{1}{3}$ per cent.) in the proportion of working expenses to receipts.

Offences reported.

114. The number of offences reported to the police or magistrates during 1880 and 1881 is given in the following table; those offences being distinguished:—1. In respect to which persons were brought before magistrates on summons, but were never in

custody. 2. In respect to which arrests were made by the police. 3. In respect to which no person had been arrested or brought before magistrates* up to the end of the month of March of the year following that in which the offence was reported. A slight decrease will be observed under the third head, but an increase under the other two heads; the total number of offences being nearly 5 per cent. more in 1881 than in 1880:—

Offences, 1880 *and* 1881.

Offences in respect to which	1880.	1881.	Increase.	Decrease.
1. Persons were brought before magistrates on summons - -	17,795	19,384	1,589	—
2. Persons were apprehended by the police -	23,983	25,346	1,363	—
3. The offenders were still at large - -	4,898	4,631	—	267
Total - -	46,676	49,361	2,685	—

115. Nearly two-fifths of the total number of offences in 1880 and 1881 consisted of those in respect to which persons were brought before magistrates on summons but were not taken into custody. These must obviously be of a lighter character than those for which arrests were made, and therefore do not demand lengthened consideration. The following are the particulars given respecting those which were dealt with in 1880 and 1881:— Summons cases.

Offences dealt with by Summons, 1880 *and* 1881.

—	1880.	1881.	Increase.	Decrease.
Offences against the person - - -	2,409	2,468	59	—
Offences against property - - -	346	998	652	—
Other offences - -	15,040	15,918	878	—
Total - -	17,795	19,384	1,589	—
Cases dismissed by magistrates - - -	6,716	6,701	—	15
Offender summarily convicted or held to bail -	11,079	12,683	1,604	—

* It does not follow that in the remaining instances the offender escaped altogether. He may have been arrested after the date at which the returns were made up, or, on other charges, even prior to that period.

VICTORIA.

Arrests, 1871, 1876, and 1881.

116. The persons who were taken in charge by the Victorian police in 1881, and in the first year of each of the two previous quinquenniads, were as follows:—

Persons Arrested, 1871, 1876, *and* 1881.

Number of Persons	1871.	1876.	1881.
Taken into custody - - -	22,800	25,281	25,346
Discharged by magistrates - -	6,950	7,750	8,307
Summarily convicted or held to bail -	15,069	16,851	16,448
Committed for trial - - -	781	680	591

Arrests, proportion to population.

117. It will be observed that fewest arrests were made at the first period, and that they were only slightly more numerous at the last than at the middle period. In proportion to the number of persons in the colony, however, arrests at the last period were less numerous than at either the first or the middle period. The estimated average population in 1871 was 737,005; in 1876, 796,558; and in 1881, 868,942. The arrests were, therefore in the proportion of 1 to every 32 persons living at the first period, of 1 to every 32 persons living at the second period, and of 1 to every 34 persons living at the third period. In considering the arrests in connexion with the numbers of the population, it should, however, be remembered that persons, and especially males, at an age to commit crime bear a much smaller proportion to the inhabitants of the colony than they did formerly.

Causes of arrest.

118. A condensed statement of the offences for which arrests were made in the same three years, together with the numbers arrested for each offence, will be found in the following table:—

Causes of Arrest, 1871, 1876, *and* 1881.

Offence.	1871.	1876.	1881.
Murder and attempt at murder - -	28	17	16
Manslaughter - - - - - -	14	17	16
Shooting at or wounding with intent to do bodily harm - - - - - -	54	59	82
Assaults - - - - - -	1,398	1,425	1,862
Rape and indecent assaults on females -	88	86	71
Unnatural offence, and assaults with intent to commit - - - - - -	18	15	5
Other offences against the person - -	130	125	109
Robbery with violence, burglary, &c. - -	224	136	195
Horse, sheep, and cattle stealing, &c. - -	154	170	183
Other offences against property - -	3,454	3,458	3,355

Offence.	1871.	1876.	1881.
Forgery and offences against the currency -	82	98	58
Drunkenness - - - - -	9,968	11,624	11,065
Other offences against good order - -	5,045	6,085	6,696
Offences relating to carrying out laws - -	672	374	361
Smuggling and other offences against the revenue - - - - -	101	66	33
Offences against public welfare - -	1,370	1,526	1,239
Total - - - -	22,800	25,281	25,346

Total moneys on deposit.

119. The following is a statement of the total amount of moneys on deposit at or about the end of each of the last five years with banks of issue, savings banks, and building societies. Other institutions, such as deposit banks, and some of the insurance companies, also receive deposits, but of these no returns are furnished:—

Moneys on Deposit at end of Years 1877 *to* 1880.

Amount deposited with	1877.	1878.	1879.	1880.	1881.
	£	£	£	£	£
Banks - - - -	16,503,528	16,106,581	16,326,165	17,972,703	21,151,910
Savings banks - - -	1,575,305	1,510,273	1,520,296	1,661,409	2,569,438
Building societies - -	748,253	703,463	742,542	829,941	836,327
Total - - -	18,827,086	18,320,317	18,589,003	20,464,053	24,557,675

Moneys on deposit, 1881.

120. It will be observed that the moneys known to be on deposit about the close of the last year amounted in the aggregate to over twenty-four and a half millions sterling.

Land under tillage.

121. The extent of land returned as under cultivation in 1881–2 amounted to 1,821,719 acres, as against 1,997,943 acres in 1880–1. The falling off shown by the figures was therefore 176,224 acres.

Reason of apparent falling off in tillage.

122. Notwithstanding this apparent falling off, however, there is little doubt that as much land was placed under crop in the year under review as in the previous one, but as in some parts of the country the crops were entirely destroyed by drought, or promised so badly that stock were allowed to feed on what little appeared above the surface of the ground, it is probable that in many instances the occupiers did not consider it worth while to make any return to the collectors.

Increase of tillage in ten years.

123. Except upon the present occasion, the returns from year to year have almost invariably shown a considerable increase in the extent of land under tillage. During the decenniad ended with the year under review the total increase has been 884,499 acres, or 94 per cent.

VICTORIA.

Land under principal crops.

124. The principal crops grown are wheat, oats, barley, potatoes, hay, and green forage. In 1881–2, as compared with 1880–1, a smaller area was placed under each of these except oats. The extent under wheat, barley, and hay, however, was greater in 1881–2 than in any previous year except 1880–1; but that under oats and potatoes was exceeded in four, and that under green forage in seven, other years. During the past six years, wheat was much more extensively cultivated than formerly. Prior to 1877, the extent under that crop never reached 400,000 acres. The following table shows the extent of land under each of these crops in the last two seasons :—

Land under Principal Crops, 1881 *and* 1882.

Year ended 31st March.	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.	Potatoes.	Hay.	Green Forage.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
1881 - -	977,285	134,089	68,630	45,951	249,656	264,611
1882 - -	926,729	146,995	48,652	39,129	212,150	241,947
Increase -	—	12,906	—	—	—	—
Decrease -	50,556	—	19,978	6,822	37,506	22,664

Produce of principal crops.

125. The gross yield of wheat, barley, and hay was not so great in the last as in the two preceding seasons, but was heavier than in any other season ; whilst that of potatoes was exceeded on one occasion, and that of oats on three occasions. No return is made of the quantity of green forage produced, but the following is a statement of the gross yield of the other principal crops in 1880–1 and 1881–2 :—

Gross Produce of Principal Crops, 1881 *and* 1882.

Year ended 31st March.	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.	Potatoes.	Hay.
	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Tons.	Tons.
1881 - - -	9,727,369	2,362,425	1,068,830	129,262	300,581
1882 - - -	8,714,377	3,612,111	927,566	134,290	238,796
Increase -	—	1,249,686	—	5,028	—
Decrease -	1,012,992	—	141,264	—	61,785

Yield of principal crops 1872 to 1882.

126. The following table shows the acreable yield of these five principal crops during each of the last eleven years, also the average during the whole period :—

Average Produce of Principal Crops, 1872 *to* 1882.

Year ended 31st March.	Average Produce per Acre of				
	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.	Potatoes.	Hay.
	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Tons.	Tons.
1872 - -	13·45	18·76	20·00	3·22	1·40
1873 - -	16·51	19·55	20·86	3·45	1·32
1874 - -	13·58	15·69	19·84	2·86	1·27
1875 - -	14·57	18·46	21·01	3·53	1·32
1876 - -	15·49	21·92	22·20	3·37	1·33
1877 - -	13·15	19·91	21·18	3·31	1·22
1878 - -	12·41	19·39	19·81	3·11	1·18
1879 - -	8·76	17·60	18·24	2·71	1·21
1880 - -	13·29	24·00	24·67	4·04	1·45
1881 - -	9·95	17·62	15·57	2·81	1·20
1882 - -	9·40	24·57	19·07	3·43	1·13
Mean of 11 years -	12·77	19·77	20·22	3·26	1·28

Live stock.

127. Information as to the numbers of live stock kept in the Colony was obtained at the recent census. The numbers are given in the following table ; also those derived from the returns of the census of 1871:—

Live Stock, 1871 *and* 1881.

Year of Census.	Number of Owners of Live Stock.	Horses.	Cattle.			Sheep.	Pigs.	Goats.	Asses.	Mules.
			Milch Cows.	Other Cattle.	Total.					
1871 -	78,231	209,025	212,193	564,534	776,727	10,477,976	180,109	122,164	56	164
1881 -	94,677	275,516	329,198	957,069	1,286,267	10,360,285	241,936	68,426	135	78
Increase	16,466	66,491	117,005	392,535	509,540	—	61,827	—	79	—
Decrease	—	—	—	—	—	117,691	—	53,738	—	86

Increase or decrease in ten years.

128. It will be observed that, in the ten years which elapsed between the taking of the two censuses, the owners of live stock increased by upwards of 16,000; that a slight falling-off took place in the number of sheep, which, however, was very much more than made up by a large increase in the number of cattle; also that considerable increases took place in the numbers of horses and pigs.

Stock per square mile.

129. Speaking roughly, there were in Victoria, when the census was taken, 3 horses, 15 head of cattle, 118 sheep, and

VICTORIA.

3 pigs, or, taking the different kinds together, 139 head of stock of these descriptions, large and small, to the square mile.

Manufactories of all descriptions.

130. It is found that during 1881–2 the manufacturing establishments throughout the Colony increased by 18, the hands employed by over 5,000, and the value of machinery, lands and buildings by nearly 600,000*l.*, but a trifling falling-off took place in the number of establishments using steam-power, and in the amount of horse-power employed. The returns of the two years are contained in the following table :—

Manufactories, Works, &c., 1881 *and* 1882.

Year ended 31st March.	Total Number of Establishments.	Number of Establishments using Steam.	Horse-power of Steam engines.	Number of Hands employed.	Approximate Value of Lands, Buildings, Machinery, and Plant.
					£
1881 -	2,469	1,048	14,502	38,141	7,465,328
1882 -	2,487	1,032	13,835	43,217	8,052,896
Increase -	18	—	—	5,076	587,568
Decrease -	—	16	667	—	—

Gold raised 1880 and 1881.

131. The following table shows the quantity and value of the gold raised in Victoria in the last two years :—

Quantity and Value of Gold raised in 1880 *and* 1881.

Year.	Gold raised in Victoria.	
	Estimated Quantity.	Value at 4*l.* per oz.
	ozs.	£
1880 - - -	829,121	3,316,484
1881 - - -	858,850	3,435,400
Increase - -	29,729	118,916

Gold raised 1851 to 1881

132. Carrying on to the end of 1881 the calculations given in previous years, the following may be estimated as the total quantity and value of the gold raised in Victoria from the period of its first discovery in 1851. These figures give an average per

annum during the whole period of about 1,629,212 ozs., which is nearly twice the quantity raised in 1881;—

Estimated Total Quantity and Value of Gold raised in Victoria, 1851 *to* 1881.

Gold raised in Victoria.	Estimated Quantity.	Value at 4*l.* per oz.
	ozs.	£
Prior to 1881 - - -	49,646,717	198,586,868
During 1881 - - -	858,850	3,435,400
Total - -	50,505,567	202,022,268

133. For complete information on many points which have been merely touched upon, and on others which are not even mentioned in this digest, the reader is referred to the "Victorian Year Book,* 1881–2."

HENRY HEYLYN HAYTER,
Government Statist of Victoria.

* This is an official publication by the Government Statist, published annually, and may be obtained from the Government printer, Melbourne, the Agent General of Victoria, 8, Victoria Chambers, Westminster, or George Robertson, 17, Warwick Square, London.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY of VICTORIA from 1879 to 1881 inclusive.*

Year.	Population on 31st December.			Births.	Deaths.	Marriages.	Immigration (By sea).	Emigration (By sea).	General Revenue.	General Expenditure.	Crown Land Sales.		Land in Cultivation.	Live Stock.				Postage.		
	Persons.	Males.	Females.								Area sold.	Amount realised.		Horses.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.	No. of Post Offices.	Number of Letters.	No. of Newspapers.
									£	£	Acres.	£	Acres.							
1879	840,620	441,434	399,186	26,839	12,120	4,986	44,384	39,212	4,621,520	4,833,379	283,191	384,432	1,688,275	216,710	1,129,358	8,651,775	144,733	1,069	23,215,648	10,075,407
1880	860,067	451,456	408,611	26,148	11,652	5,286	56,955	45,294	4,621,282	4,875,029	409,738	471,824	1,997,943	} 275,516	1,286,267	10,360,285	241,936 {	1,100	24,195,149	10,640,540
1881	882,232	464,222	418,010	27,145	12,302	5,896	59,066	51,744	5,186,011	5,108,642	458,636	574,382	1,821,719					1,158	26,308,347	11,440,732

Continued.

Year.	Shipping.				Vessels built.		Vessels registered.		Mortgages and Liens.		Imports.	Imports of		Exports.	Exports of							
	Inwards.		Outwards.									Breadstuffs (Wheat, Flour, Bread, and Biscuit).			Wool.		Tallow.		Hides and Skins.	Breadstuffs (Wheat, Flour Bread, and Biscuit).	
	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Amount secured.	Total Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Total Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
										£	£	Bushels.	£	£	lbs.	£	lbs.	£	£	Bush.	£
1879	2,084	963,087	2,083	977,135	4	146	23	5,227	12,063	7,358,952	15,035,538	83,837	20,763	12,454,170	95,628,281	5,269,634	11,780,160	150,867	50,902	1,041,221	272,438
1880	2,076	1,078,885	2,115	1,101,014	4	205	18	7,828	10,722	5,615,401	14,556,894	155,345	33,061	15,954,559	112,486,058	6,417,453	15,097,600	192,394	98,092	3,734,078	886,980
1881	2,125	1,219,231	2,123	1,192,671	9	698	28	7,138	10,636	6,672,733	16,718,521	157,334	26,464	16,252,103	103,449,084	5,450,029	19,765,760	247,372	114,903	4,050,308	950,640

* The Statistical Summary for several previous years will be found printed at pages 89–92 of [C.–2730] of September 1880, pages 75 and 76 of [C.–2829] of March 1881, and pages 53 and 54 of [C.–3218] of May 1882.

Statistical Summary of Victoria from 1879 to 1881 inclusive—*continued.*

Year.	Gold raised.		Public Debt on Dec. 31.	Government Expenditure on					Railways.			Electric Telegraphs.			Banks of Issue.			
	Estimated Quantity.	Value at 4*l.* per oz.		Railways.	Roads and Bridges.	Melbourne Water Supply (Yan Yean).	Other Waterworks.	Other Public Works.	Miles opened.	Train Miles travelled.	Total Receipts.	Number of Stations.	Number of Miles of Wire.	Number of Telegrams.	Number of Banks.	Paid-up Capital.	Assets.	Liabilities.
	oz.	£	£	£	£	£	£	£			£					£	£	£
1879	758,947	3,035,788	20,050,753	1,061,694	36,884	40,065	12,327	356,547	1,125	4,002,624	1,383,650	257	5,736	1,010,116	11	9,026,250	25,339,843	17,818,225
1880	829,121	3,316,484	22,060,749	1,988,916	24,945	47,094	84,413	383,751	1,199	4,380,802	1,492,917	284	6,019	1,160,912	11	9,126,250	23,284,822	19,488,512
1881	858,850	3,435,400	22,426,502	782,134	31,631	39,929	40,267	317,352	1,247	4,633,267	1,665,209	302	6,626	1,281,749	11	9,143,122	27,173,809	22,902,017

Continued.

Year.	Savings Banks.			Friendly Societies.		Cities, Towns, and Boroughs.			Shires and Road Districts.			Flour Mills.	Manufactories, Works, &c. (exclusive of Flour Mills).	Mining Machines.	Churches and Chapels.	Schools, public and private.		Melbourne University.		Number of Persons.			
	Number of Savings Banks.	Number of Depositors.	Amount of Balances.	Number of Branches.	Average Number of Members.	Number.	Total Value of Rateable Property.	Revenue.	Number.	Total Value of Rateable Property.	Revenue.					Number of Schools.	Number of Scholars on the Rolls.	Number of Matriculated Students.	Number of Direct Graduates.	Taken into Custody.	Committed for Trial.	Convicted after Commitment.	Executed.
			£				£	£		£	£												
1879	196	82,941	1,520,296	766	45,933	57	31,352,880	447,712	115	51,891,236	605,776	139	2,100	4,379	2,890	2,282	262,599	112	56	24,625	628	397	1
1880	202	92,114	1,661,409	748	46,074	57	31,199,483	416,765	117	52,647,936	405,187	144	2,325	4,282	3,307	2453	257,857	151	49	23,983	680	398	1
1881	212	101,829	2,569,438	—	—	57	32,308,794	457,462	117	55,333,665	557,498	138	2,349	4,415	3,456	2,407	268,882	172	55	25,346	591	332	1

(Signed) HENRY HEYLYN HAYTER, Government Statist.

NEWFOUNDLAND.

NEWFOUNDLAND.

No. 3.

Administrator Sir F. B. T. CARTER, K.C.M.G., to the Right Hon. the EARL OF KIMBERLEY.

Government House, Newfoundland,
December 18, 1882.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the Blue Book of Newfoundland, in duplicate, for the year 1881, together with a report upon the same, which I received from the Colonial Secretary's office after posting letters by this mail.

I have, &c.

(Signed) F. B. T. CARTER,
Administrator.

The Right Hon.
The Earl of Kimberley,
&c. &c.

From the COLONIAL SECRETARY to the ADMINISTRATOR.

Colonial Secretary's Office, St. John's, Newfoundland,
December 16, 1882.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR,

I HAVE the honour to forward the Blue Book of Newfoundland for the year 1881, upon the contents of which I would offer a few remarks.

Trade.

The imports of the year amounted to $6,863,708, being $102,535 below the value of those of the previous year. This difference arises chiefly from the lower cost of goods imported, and partly from an excess of stocks remaining from 1880. The exports amounted to $7,755,360, exceeding those of 1880 by $2,184,076. The reasons of this considerable increase are found, not alone in a successful fishery, but in an enhanced price for our staple, arising from the partial failure of the Norwegian fisheries. The catch of cod fish showed an increase of 190,000 quintels; and of seal oil we had a produce of 2,360 tons more than in the preceding year. I may observe that our shipments direct to Europe from Labrador, which are considerable, do not form part of these returns; nor do they include exports of bait to St. Pierre, of which there is no accurate account.

Revenue.

The gross revenue for 1881 was $1,099,369; of this, $916,938 was from Customs receipts; the remainder from various small sources. The increase in 1880 was $64,597, and was obtained chiefly on imports of molasses, spirits, and tobacco.

Expenditure.

The expenditure for 1881 was $1,040,740, as compared with $1,105,490 in 1880. The difference was owing to a charge in 1880 on account of railway survey, and the discontinuance of the bank fishery bounty in 1881.

Public Works.

The usual public works were prosecuted in this year, comprising the extension and repairs of roads and wharves and landing places in several districts. A company was incorporated to construct a railway from St. John's to Halls Bay, with branches, and a subsidy was granted to them for 35 years of $180,000 a year. The work of construction was commenced during the year, and about 10 miles of road were built. When this work is completed it is expected that a great impetus will be given to industrial enterprise by the development of the mineral and agricultural resources in which the Colony is believed to abound.

Banks.

The banking business has been most successful, while it must be admitted that this is the normal condition of banking enterpris in this Colony. The Union Bank paid 20 per cent. on presen capital, which is equal to 30 per cent. on its original stock. The Commercial Bank paid 12 per cent. The deposits in the savings bank on the 31st December were $1,291,162, being an increase of $71,374 over 1880. The net profits of this bank for the year were $12,739. From the accumulated profits $100,000 were taken in 1880 to reduce the public debt, and the future profits will be applied to the same purpose.

Public Debt.

The amount of the public debt on the 31st December was $1,350,508 29; as against this, the sum of $746,277 remains on account of the fishery award; and with the legal provisions to apply the profits of the savings bank to the liquidation of the debt, the obligation of the Colony as regards the principal may be regarded as almost nominal.

NEWFOUNDLAND.

Mining.

In 1881, 27,351 tons copper ore were exported, the value being $547,000, as against 22,063 tons, value $440,000, in 1880. With more capital and skill, and railroad extension, a considerable increase of this valuable industry may be confidently predicted.

Manufactures.

There was an addition of two large factories in this year to those previously existing, viz., a woollen manufactory and a tan yard. All this description of enterprise is giving satisfactory results.

Shipbuilding.

The number of vessels, chiefly small fishing vessels, built in1881 was 97, with an aggregate tonnage of 3,847 tons, against 131 vessels of 5,018 tons in 1880.

Agriculture.

In 1881, 137 grants of land were issued for 1,349 acres, while 110 only were issued in 1880 for 531 acres. There is an increased desire to obtain land, and no doubt in the future a greater degree of attention will be given to the cultivation of the soil.

Education.

The returns from this department are not sufficiently complete for the purpose of comparison; but the evidences point to improvement in results. The examination and grading of teachers will, it is anticipated, materially elevate the standard of education throughout the Colony.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. D. SHEA,
Colonial Secretary.

His Honour
Sir F. B. T. Carter, K.C.M.G.,
Administrator.

BAHAMAS.

No. 4.

Governor C. C. Lees, C.M.G., to the Right Hon. the Earl of Kimberley.

Government House,
September 15, 1882.

My Lord,

I have the honour to transmit a report upon the Blue Book for the year 1881, which has been handed to me by Mr. Taylor, the Colonial Secretary.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. C. Lees,
Governor.

The Right Hon.
The Earl of Kimberley,
&c. &c.

Report on the Blue Book of the Bahamas for 1881.

Taxes and Finance.

1. The 44 Vict. c. 6 imposes a duty of 12½ per centum on the importation of Spanish, Mexican, and Columbian dollars and quarter dollars.

2. This measure was rendered necessary, in order to guard the Colony against the influx of these coins, which had previously seriously deranged trade.

3. The demonetization of these coins, and their redemption at 4*s.* the dollar, was authorised by Act of the Local Legislature 44 Vict. c. 7.

4. The amount of coin redeemed was 18,171*l.* at a cost of 2,116*l.* 14*s.* 4*d.*

5. The cash balance in the Treasury on the 31st December 1880 was 3,210*l.* 8*s.* 10*d.*

6. The Revenue for 1881 was 41,294*l.* 5*s.* 1*d.*, being 1,651*l.* less than that of the previous year.

7. This deficiency was caused by the falling off in the importation of ale and porter, bread, coffee, sugar, materials of vessels and loss of Imperial grant in aid of the mail subsidy.

8. The Expenditure for 1881 amounted to 44,235*l.* 9*s.* 1*d.* being 1,592*l.* 14*s.* 5*d.* in excess of the previous year.

9. This excess was caused by the heavy expenditure on account of the demonetization of Mexican and Columbian dollars, and the taking of the census in April.

10. The premium on bills of exchange amounted to 3 per cent. and 3½ per cent.

BAHAMAS.

Public Debt.

11. The public debt of the Colony on the 31st December 1881 amounted to 71,008*l.* 10*s.* 9*d.* of which 57,836*l.* 13*s.* 2*d.* is in debentures bearing interest at 6, 5, and 5¾ per cent., and 13,171*l.* 17*s.* 7*d.* balance to the Widows' and Orphans' Fund.

12. The sum of 500*l.* was paid out of the General Revenue of the Colony towards the extinguishment of the public debt.

Imports and Exports.

13. The value of the imports and exports was respectively 168,380*l.* and 114,100*l.*

14. Compared with 1880, a falling off is shown in the imports of 12,435*l.* and on exports 7,329*l.*

15. The value of native produce exported was 90,129*l.*

Public Health and Temperature.

16. The health of the Island of New Providence during 1881 was remarkably good. In their Report for the year, the Board of Health remark that "not only has the year been characterized "by the absence of any contagious or infectious disease, but also "by a marked diminution in the number of cases of the ordinary "endemic diseases of the island;" and they state that they feel justified in attributing the latter to the constant care and vigilance which has been bestowed upon the sanitary condition of the city and suburbs, in the exercise of which they have been most efficiently assisted by their executive officer, the Sanitary Inspector.

17. The population of the Bahamas in 1881 was 43,521.

Births during the year, 1586.

Births.	Quarters.				
	March.	June.	September.	December.	Total.
New Providence -	87	66	69	98	320
Out-islands - -	381	287	290	308	1,266
	468	353	359	406	1,586

Deaths during the year, 947.

Deaths.	Quarters.				
	March.	June.	September.	December.	Total.
New Providence -	93	91	113	85	382
Out-islands - -	109	140	156	160	565
	202	231	269	245	947

The ratio of births per 1,000, 36·44, of deaths 21·75.

18. The mortality for 1880 was 791.

19. Fever of the same type as that which made its appearance in New Providence in the autumn of 1879 prevailed during a part of the year at Governor's Harbour, Harbour Islands, and Spanish Wells.

20. Medical gentlemen were appointed by the Government to visit the infected districts for the purpose of investigating and reporting on their sanitary condition, and the Board of Health recommended the carrying out of certain regulations with a view to the improvement of the same.

21. The disease soon disappeared at the places mentioned.

22. Small pox was introduced at Acklins Island from a South American port in the month of September, and extended itself to the neighbouring district of Crooked Island.

23. The active measures adopted by the Local Board of Health, aided by the efforts of Dr. Albury, who was despatched by the Government to render assistance to the sick, and to carry out a thorough vaccination of the whole district, happily resulted in the extinction of this loathsome disease at the places aforenamed.

24. Five hundred and forty-five successful vaccinations have been performed in the island of New Providence during the year, and supplies of lymph have been forwarded to the several out-islands of the Colony.

25. Quarantine regulations have been rigidly enforced, and all vessels arriving from suspected places have been carefully inspected before being granted pratique.

METEOROLOGICAL TABLE for 1881.

Month.	Temperature.				Rainfall.			
	Max. in Shade at 9 a.m.	Min. in Shade at 9 a.m.	Max. in Sun (24 hours).	Mean at 3 p.m.	Rain-fall.	No. of Rainy Days.	Max. Fall in 24 hours.	Date.
					inches.			
January - - -	79·0	69·5	142·5	77·1	1·50	9	0·30	13
February - - -	79·0	67·5	146·5	74·7	2·15	7	0·93	3
March - - -	80·0	64·0	150·5	74·8	1·88	5	0·92	20
April - - - -	83·0	67·5	151·2	77·9	0·43	2	0·33	14
May - - - -	85.2	75·0	153·0	81·5	7·63	15	2·35	24
June - - - -	89·2	75·0	153·0	85·7	6·06	12	3·25	21
July - - - -	90·0	75·5	154·5	86·9	8·62	18	3·65	28
August - - -	90·0	76·5	153·5	86·2	6·24	9	1·32	6
September - - -	89·0	81·0	150·5	84·2	7·07	20	1·27	17
October - - -	85·0	70·0	149·5	80·4	4·07	16	1·09	15
November - - -	82·5	71·5	147·2	78·4	2·35	15½	0·54	14
December - - -	79·0	66·5	138·8	75·1	1·65	10	0·73	15
Totals - -	1010·9	859·5	1790·7	962·9	49·65	138½	16·68	—
Averages - -	84·2	71·6	149·2	80·2	4·14	12	1·38	—

BAHAMAS.

Salt

26. The year 1881 has been one of great depression, and the prospect is gloomy. While the seasons for salt raking were good there was no demand; prices fell as low as $3\frac{1}{2}d.$ per bushel for coarse, and $4\frac{1}{2}d.$ per bushel for fine salt, but, even at this low rate a very small proportion of the quantity raked was disposed of.

27. The small trade with Hayti was interrupted in consequence of the establishment of a rigid quarantine.

28. At the close of the year there was on hand at Magua, over 100,000 bushels, and at Long Island 50,000 bushels.

29. The duty on salt in the United States amounts to a prohibition.

30. Return showing the quantity of salt shipped from the undermentioned ports during the year 1881 :—

Name of Place.	Bushels.
Inagua - - - -	108,616
Ragged Island - - -	61,027
Rum Cay - - -	41,163
Long Island - - -	21,491
Long Cay - - - -	20,200
Exuma - - - -	—
Total	252,497

Sponge Trade.

31. In the Blue Book Report for 1880, fears were expressed that the fishing grounds were getting exhausted. Since then, new beds have been discovered lying off the coast of Eleuthera, extending for nearly 30 miles.

32. The water along the shore is deep, being 5 fathoms, and diminishes to 3 and 2 fathoms as the distance is increased from the shore.

33. Why the discovery had not earlier taken place can only be attributed to the muddiness of the bottom, rendering the water very turbid.

34. The sponges obtained from this locality are very large, and are procured in great quantities.

35. The market is very active, between 4,000 and 5,000 men and boys are engaged in this industry.

36. Return showing the quantity and value of sponge exported in 1880 and 1881 :—

	1880.		1881.	
	Quantity in lbs.	Value.	Quantity in lbs.	Value.
		£		£
Boat - - -	13,099	622	13,607	575
Glove - - -	17,576	671	15,729	501
Grass - - -	95,402	2,775	83,330	2,521
Hardhead - -	22,828	1,073	27,587	1,448
Mixed - - -	5,550	193	2,254	85
Reef - - -	27,349	2,304	27,681	2,618
Refuse - - -	2,414	39	4,849	59
Roots - - -	—	—	250	6
Velvet - - -	128,804	10,247	115,529	8,294
Wool - - -	111,509	15,032	92,029	13,017
Yellow - - -	56,426	1,609	42,436	1,228
	480,957		425,281	
	cwt. 4,294	34,565	cwt. 3,797	30,352

Fruit.

37. The value of pine apples shipped in 1881 was 28,303*l.* The crop was a fair one. Much of this fruit is now retained in the Colony to be preserved in the preserving factories at New Providence, Eleuthera, and Harbour Island.

Oranges, Lemons, Limes, Grape Fruit, and Shaddock.

38. The orange crop of 1881 was not large. The quantity of oranges exported was 4,103,590, of value, 4,968*l.*

39. The insects, which during 1879 and 1880 did such damage to the trees, and known as *Aspidites Gloverii*, are still at work, and exciting much apprehension.

40. The work is so rapidly carried on by these insects, that, in the infected districts, the poorer cultivators are in despair, and do very little to remedy the evil. There have been applied all the known remedies, such as carbolic acid, kerosene oil, tobacco water. In some cases the remedy is effective, in others, nothing avails to arrest the rapid depletion of the tree by these unseen but formidable insects.

41. Bananas are now exported in larger quantities than before. In 1881 there were shipped 20,700 bunches, valued at 813*l.*

Manufactures.—Mills and Works.

42. At no former period were the preserving factories more active than in 1881. The demand in the United States for the canned fruits of the Bahamas is still very great.

43. There were shipped in the year, 25,580 cases, at a value of 7,965*l.*

44. The enterprising proprietors of these factories are making fresh ventures in preserving many other fruits of the Colony, principally the cocoa plum, guava, and tamarind, and with marked success.

45. The sugar mills have been in full operation, the supply of sugar cane has been equal to the demand. Sugar and molasses of a very good quality have been made, the prices realized (home consumption) was 1*l.* 14*s.* per 100 lbs. and molasses 1*s.* 6*d.* per gallon.

46. At Harbour Island 1,500 cases of tomatoes were preserved in one factory.

Woods and Barks.

47. As before remarked, in Blue Book for 1880, the marketable woods are getting exhausted.

Barks.

48. Supplies are steadily diminishing. In 1880 the value of cascarilla exported was 402*l.*, in 1881 it was only 332*l.* Of Canella Alba only 32 cwt. was exported, valued at 16*l.*

Crown Lands and Salt Ponds.

49. There were four auction sales during the year, at which were sold 14 country and five town and suburban lots, comprising 821¾ acres, and of the value of 219*l.* 18*s.* 10*d.*

50. The receipts for the year amounted to 529*l.* 5*s.* 4*d.* and may be apportioned as follows: 208*l.* 11*s.* on account of sales in 1880 and 1881, 237*l.* 13*s.* 3*d.* being payments by squatters and arrears of former sales, and 83*l.* 1*s.* 1*d.* on account of unsold allotments.

51. Surveys were made of 63 country and 26 town and suburban lots comprising 2,050 acres, and 4,077½ acres were granted by 146 grants which were made.

52. Only 143*l.* 15*s.* 2*d.* was collected on account of salt ponds, in consequence of the failure of the purchasers at Rum Cay to pay their promissory notes when they became due, and new notes for 567*l.* 14*s.* 6*d.* were necessarily given, payable in 9 and 18 months.

Mail Service.

53. This service is still performed by the steamers of the Mallory Line, at a cost of 5,700*l.* a year. Two iron ships are now employed.

54. The Imperial Government has withdrawn its grant in aid, and the Colony bears the entire burden.

Post Office.

55. The total revenue from all sources amounted to 2,095*l.* 9*s.* 6½*d.*, an increase of 146*l.* 14*s.* 10¾*d.* on 1880 attributable to the increased demand for stamps under recent Stamp Acts.

56. The Money Order Department continues to issue orders for small sums; but the entire amount of commissions was only 17*s.* 2½*d.*, and the commissions on orders paid in the Colony was only 6*s.* 4½*d.*

57. The following table shows the various sources and amounts of ordinary revenue.

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Postage on unpaid letters from the United Kingdom - -	2	9	10½
„ Inter-insular letters -	16	11	7
„ Ship letters - -	71	10	3
„ Loose do. - -	4	6	4½
„ Letters from the United States -	21	14	4
Allowance on postage - -	79	17	4
Rental of Post Office boxes -	25	10	0
Out Islands Postage Stamps -	36	12	4½
Allowance from the United States for transit of mails - -	54	9	0
Total -	420	17	2½

58. The international postal system was in force in the Colony for only the latter half of 1880, and to this fact the decrease in the Revenue of 1881 is due.

59. The Revenue from unpaid and insufficiently paid letters has become insignificant.

60. The sum of 54*l.* 9*s.* 0*d.* received from the United States Government was in payment for the conveyance of its mails from New York to Nassau.

61. The receipts from the sale of postage stamps in Nassau amounted to 1,673*l.* 8*s.* 9¼*d.*, and on the Out Islands to 107*l.* 16*s.* 1*d.*, an increase of 534*l.* 19*s.* 0¼*d.* on 1880.

62. The number of letters received by private vessels was 4,428 and of newspapers 88, against 5,342 letters and 213 newspapers in 1880. The decrease is mainly due to the enforcement of quarantine regulations against vessels from Key West.

63. The large increase in correspondence within a single year proves that the public are availing themselves of the great advantages obtained by the adoption of the international postal system.

64. The following table shows the number of letters, newspapers and books despatched by ordinary mails to the Out Islands during the years 1880 and 1881.

Years.	Letters.	Newspapers.	Books.
1880 - - -	6,104	1,652	483
1881 - - -	7,136	4,827	1,652

65. The number of letters received from the Out Islands was 7,222 against 7,070 in 1880.

Statement of the Post Office Revenue for 1881.

Quarters.	Money orders issued.			Money orders paid.			Postage, &c.		
	No.	Amount.	Commission at one per cent.	No.	Amount.	Commission at one per cent.	Postage, &c.	Stamps sold.	Total.
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
March	—	—	—	1	2 10 0	0 0 6	92 4 1	505 8 3¾	597 12 10¾
June -	—	—	—	—	7 14 0	0 1 4	136 7 3	394 10 11¼	530 19 6¼
Sept. -	—	—	—	—	5 4 0	0 1 0½	95 12 1¾	364 0 8½	459 13 10¾
Dec. -	—	85 18 1	0 17 2¼	6	17 9 5	0 3 6	96 13 8¾	409 8 9¾	507 3 2¾
	—	85 18 1	0 17 2¼	—	32 17 5	0 6 4½	420 17 2½	1,673 8 9¼	2,095 9 6½

Public Works.

66. The expenditure under this head has been large.

67. Many necessary works long deferred have been undertaken.

68. The construction of drains and the regrading and resolving of others on sanitary grounds. The painting of the public office buildings and the market houses, the providing of wrought iron standards and sash frames for the lantern of the Hog Island Lighthouse and the painting the exterior wood and iron work of the tower, the erection of a piazza on the front centre hospital, the erection of a building for the recreation of the lunatics, repairs to the ice house, the erection of a building for use as a store house and physician's retiring room at the Quarantine Station, the erection of a flag staff at signal station, the making and repairing of suburban roads.

69. On account of the limited funds in the Treasury, the foregoing works had been postponed for several years, but their execution had now become a necessity.

Legislation.

70. Fourteen Acts were passed during 1881. The most important were:—

1. An Act to provide for taking the Census of the Bahama Islands in the year 1881.

2. An Act to impose a duty on the importation of Spanish, Mexican, and Columbian Dollars and Half and Quarter Dollars.

3. An Act to declare that tender of payment in Spanish, Mexican, or Columbian Silver Coins called Dollars shall cease to be a legal tender.

4. An Act to incorporate a certain Joint Stock Company formed in the Island of New Providence under the style of the Nassau Fire and Marine Insurance Company.

5. An Act to increase the Salary of the Attorney-General of the Colony, and his Successors in Office.

Crime.

71. In 1880 36 informations were filed against 38 persons. In 1881 26 informations against 26 persons.

72. The total number of persons apprehended was 2,238.

73. The number of summary convictions in 1880 was 1,341. Total number in 1881, 1,242.

74. The number of acquittals in 1880 was:—

	In Inferior Courts - - -	726
	In Superior Courts - - -	3
In 1881.	In Inferior Courts - - -	683
	In Superior Courts - - -	8

75. There was a marked increase in the number of summary conviction for prædial larceny, this is accounted for from the fact that more attention is paid to agriculture.

76. The area of land under cultivation is steadily increasing.

77. The Attorney-General in his report remarks that during the past year no case occurred which calls for special comment. On a review of the statistics he felt warranted in reporting that crime in this Colony is on the decrease.

Census.

78. The following is an abstract of the census of the Bahamas, together with a comparative tabular statement showing the increase or decrease of the several inhabited islands of the Archipelago.

1. *Population.* The gross results show an increase of 11·13 per cent. for the past ten years or about one and one ninth per cent. per annum.

BAHAMAS.

2. *Sexes.* There are rather more than 47½ per cent. of males to a little less than 52½ per cent. of females; but in New Providence there are only 44⅓ per cent. of males to 55⅔ per cent. of females.

3. *Age.* Nearly 52½ per cent. of the population are under 18 years, while 47½ per cent. are over that age; and 2⅕ per cent. are more than 70 years old.

4. *Marriage.*—The number of married people has not been given in any former census here, they now amount to 30 per cent. of the population.

5. *Rank, Profession or Occupation.*—No very marked alteration appears to have taken place in the condition and pursuits of the people since the Census of 1871 was taken.

6. *Where Born.*—This is also a new feature here in the present census. The natives number 94⅓ per cent.; Africans about 3 per cent., and the remaining few are mostly either of English or American birth.

7. *Imbecile, Blind, Lepers, &c.*—Those returned under these headings, number 269, or rather more than one half per cent. of the people.

8. *Comparative tabular statement of increase or decrease.*—The most important increases have been at the following islands:—

Andros	60·61 per cent.
San Salvador	36· „ „
Mayaguana	36·6 „ „
Grand Bahama	19·8 „ „
Eleuthera	15·7 „ „
Long Cay, including Crooked Island, &c.	15·6 „ „
Abaco	15·5 „ „

The decreases have been at:—

Rum Cay	46 per cent.
Berry Islands	26 „ „
Ragged Island	15 „ „
Bimini	11 „ „
Harbour Island	9·3 „ „

79. In 1871 Rum Cay numbered 681 souls; but by the last census only 367 persons were living there.

80. The small increase in the number of persons living on New Providence, too, falls considerably below the average increase of the whole Colony, but this is attributed to such disturbing

elements as immigration, chiefly to Cay West, and removals from our poor soil to the better lands of Andros and other islands.

81. Tabular statement showing increase or decrease of the population of the islands of the Bahamas since 1871 :—

—	Total Number in 1871.	Total Number in 1881.	Increase.	Decrease.	Remarks.
Abaco	3,125	3,610	485	—	The Islands of Andros, San Salvador, Mayaguana, Grand Bahama, Eleuthera, Long Cay, including Crooked Island, &c., and Abaco, have increased more than the normal average for the Colony. While New Providence, Exuma, and Cays Long Island, Spanish Wells, Watlings Island, and Cay Lobos, have fallen below the average; and at Rum Cay, Berry Islands, Ragged Island, Biminis and Harbour Island, decreases from 46 to 9·3 per cent. have occurred.
Andros Island	2,138	3,434	1,296	—	
Berry Islands	250	185	—	65	
Biminis	746	663	—	83	
Eleuthera	6,058	7,010	952	—	
Exuma and Cays	1,984	2,090	106	—	
Grand Bahama	743	890	147	—	
Harbour Island	2,172	1,970	—	202	
Magua	1,120	1,083	—	37	
Long Island	2,226	2,573	347	—	
Long Cay, Acklins Island, Crooked Island	1,870	2,114	244	—	
Mayaguana	180	246	66	—	
New Providence	11,410	11,653	243	—	
Rum Cay	681	367	—	314	
Ragged Island	321	271	—	50	
Spanish Wells	395	440	45	—	
Saint Salvador	3,100	4,226	1,126	—	
Watlings Island	634	675	41	—	
Cay Sal and Cay Lobos	9	21	12	—	
	39,162	43,521	5,110	751	

Prison.

82. This institution reflects great credit on the prison authorities.

33. The total number of prisoners committed during the year was 422, of whom one was for debt, 53 for safe custody till trial or want of security, and 368 for penal imprisonment. Of the last, 19 were convicted before the Supreme Criminal Court, 40 were sentenced by military courts martial, and the remaining 309 were committed by the police magistrate of Nassau, and the justices of the Out Islands.

84. This shows a decrease in the amount of crime as compared with 1880, when the total number of commitments was 441, 44 being for safe custody, and 397 for penal imprisonment, and a very considerable decrease as compared with 1871, when the total number of commitments was 582, though the returns of the census show an increase since then in the population of the Colony.

85. The number of prisoners for military offences has decreased, there having been 40 commitments for this year against 47 for 1880.

86. There is also a diminution in the number of prisoners for minor offences, as may be seen from the following table, which shows the nature of the offences and the number of prisoners

committed by the police magistrate of Nassau and the Out Island justices for the years 1880 and 1881.

Years.	Larceny.	Assault and Battery.	Assault.	Assault on Police.	Resisting Police.	Loud Quarrelling.	Profane and Indecent Language.	Abusive Language.	Fighting.	Vagrancy.	Disobedience of Orders.	Desertion.	Breach of Market Regulations.	Drunkenness.	Other Offences.	Total.
1880 -	119	52	—	4	4	15	28	48	15	5	2	2	—	6	27	327
1881 -	110	46	3	—	5	21	26	29	19	4	—	12	1	2	31	309

87. Of the 368 prisoners sentenced to penal imprisonment, 64 had been previously convicted once, 43 twice, and 148 three times or oftener.

88. The daily average number of prisoners was 79·70: 52·59 being males, 22·72 females, and 4·39 juveniles. The highest number in prison on any one day was 92, and the lowest 49; in 1880 the daily average was somewhat less, being 73·46; 49·63 males, 15·58 females and 8·25 juveniles.

89. Two hundred and twenty-one punishments for breaches of prison discipline, namely :—1 corporal punishment, 16 reprimands for first offences, and 204 solitary confinements. This is an increase on last year, when the total number of punishments was 205, and is due not to any increase of insubordination but to the greater strictness with which the prison regulations are enforced. The number of punishments reported in 1871, was 684, in comparison with which the decrease of late years is very remarkable.

90. No cases have occurred during the present year in which it was deemed necessary to sentence female prisoners to have their hair cropped.

91. The expenditure of the prison, exclusive of the salaries of keeper and chaplain, which are a fixed charge on the general revenue, and are not provided for in the annual estimates was 1,414*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.*

92. Of the male prisoners a daily average of 46 was employed on the public roads and works, whose labour, estimated at 1*s.* 3*d.* a day, would amount to 899*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.*, and five others were daily employed as cooks and yardsmen.

93. The prisoners sentenced to penal servitude and hard labour are employed outside the prison walls in keeping in order the public roads, streets, and grounds.

94. Penal labour by shot drill is enforced on all male prisoners sentenced to penal servitude or hard labour during the first three months of their sentence. The duration of the drill is two hours daily, one hour in the morning and another in the afternoon.

Before any prisoner is put to shot drill he is subjected to medical examination.

95. Within the walls of the prison, male prisoners sentenced to hard labour are employed in quarrying stone and converting it into Macadam for use on the roads. All penal gangs at work, whether inside or outside the prison walls, are under the immediate supervision of overseers, who are required to enjoin silence on the prisoners when at work, and to report any infraction of the rule.

96. The female prisoners are employed under the supervision of matrons in making, mending, and washing prisoners' clothing, and old and hardened offenders in breaking stone for use on the public roads, and in ginning cotton.

97. Ten hours in winter from 8 o'clock p.m. to 6 o'clock a.m., nine in summer, from 8 o'clock p.m. to 5 o'clock a.m., are allotted to sleep. The prisoners do not sleep in association. The corridors are lighted all night and patrolled by two officers, who relieve each other alternately.

98. Religious services are regularly performed by the chaplain on Sunday morning and Wednesday afternoon. Voluntary services are occasionally held by other ministers of the various churches who are allowed free access to the prison, and are informed whenever prisoners of their respective denominations enter the prison.

99. There were no escapes during the year.

100. The employment of a schoolmaster authorised by 63rd prison rule took place in September, with the sanction of the Administrator of the Government, the results were most satisfactory. Provision has been made in the estimates for 1882 for the permanent appointment of the office of schoolmaster, who combines the duties of an overseer, at a salary of 50*l.* per annum.

101. Prisoners serving out a first conviction, who are recommended for exemplary conduct and diligence at work, have one sixth of their sentence remitted, recommendations for remissions from the medical officer always receive due attention.

102. A coroner's inquest is always held on the death of a prisoner. No death however occurred in 1881.

103. The discipline of the prison is in a very efficient state, and the conduct of the subordinate officers in enforcing a strict observance of the prison rules has been exemplary. No change has taken place during the year among the officers.

104. The medical officer's report is as follows :—

"Sixty-four cases have been admitted to hospital during the "year, this number including re-admissions."

The prevailing form of disease has been bowel affections, diarrhœa and dysentery, the larger proportion of the cases being of a mild and tractable character. The general sanitary condition of the establishment throughout the year has been excellent.

Hospital and Asylum.

105. This institution has been much improved. Under the able superintendency of the Hon. Dr. Duncombe who was appointed

BAHAMAS.

to the office in 1880, and owing to the liberality of the Legislature the improvements in the establishment became most marked and the comfort of the inmates largely secured.

106. This most skilful and zealous officer had been, himself, a great sufferer for the last few years, being very shattered in health, but his indomitable energy and resolute will carried him through his work until at last he was forced to succumb; he died on Wednesday the 22nd day of March, 1882, universally regretted.

107. Although increased accommodation has been afforded by making the "dead house" an "associated ward," and a lepers' shed the dead house, the accommodation is not now adequate to the demand, especially with reference to the theoretical requirements of cubic space, and the Legislature cannot much longer postpone the work of extending the present building or of erecting a new building on a more eligible site.

108. The number of inmates admitted during 1881 is 22 , the largest number yet known.

109. The establishment, being an almshouse for the aged, decrepit, and broken up, as well as a hospital for the sick, cases actually moribund being included, the mortality was high.

Remaining January 1881 - - -	84
Admitted during 1881, including moribund -	225
Total - - -	309

of whom there were—

Discharged - - - - -	139
Dead - - - - -	75
Remaining January 1882 - - -	95
Total - - -	309

110. The rate of deaths is 25 per cent. The number of moribund cases was 13.

111. The increased poverty of the country has increased the number of dispensary applicants, coupled with increased readiness of the labouring class to claim public relief, the facilities of obtaining which are so readily at hand.

Lunatic Asylum.

112. The necessity for extending the present or of building a new lunatic asylum is becoming more and more urgent. The male ward has only 12 cells, and there have been 17 inmates at one time. This has necessitated the drafting of the quiet patients to the lower wards of the hospital building.

113. The recreation building, for which a grant was made by the Legislature in 1881, has been erected. It consists of two rooms, where some of the ordinary games are indulged in by the inmates. A large musical box, which is often played, affords great amusement.

114. The number of inmates admitted during 1881 was 17. The daily average number, male and female, was 21.

Education.

115. There are 30 schools in operation conducted on the British and Foreign Schools Society's system.

116. The department is administered by a Board composed of members of both branches of the Legislature and the senior clergymen of the various denominations and presided over by the Governor of the Colony.

117. Owing to the scattered nature of these islands the cost of maintaining so many schools is very great; there are many districts not yet reached. From want of funds the Board are unable to establish other schools.

118. The compulsory system in force in the Island of New Providence has not so materially increased the attendance of the pupils at the public schools as was expected.

119. In his annual report to the Board the inspector of schools reports that "the Act would be more effective in its operation if "the age for attendance at the school was changed from 5 to 14 "years, instead of from 6 to 12 as at present, and if the police "had instructions to disperse the knots of idle boys found on the "wharfs or streets during school hours."

120. The police *are* so instructed, besides, the Board employ a person whose whole time is devoted to compelling the children of school age to attend at some school.

121. Forty cases have come before the police magistrate; of these 20 were fined, 4 dismissed, and 15 orders were made to send the child or children to school.

122. The illness of the parent, and poverty, and the inability to give the proper clothing were the usual excuses.

123. A fine and commodious stone school-house has been erected at Cherokee Sound, Abaco, at a cost of 228*l.*, including furniture.

124. The approximate amount of school fees, according to average, was 513*l.* 11*s.* 4*d.*; of this amount only 107*l.* 1*s.* 9*d.* was paid, leaving arrears of 406*l.* 9*s.* 7*d.*

125. In his report to the Board for 1881 the inspector remarks, "If the law was strictly enforced the result at first might be to "lower the average attendance, but it would greatly increase the "efficiency of the schools by producing greater regularity in the "scholars, and by enabling the Board to secure a higher class of "teachers." The subject is one which will be soon dealt with by the Board of Education.

126. The present estimated income is—

	£
Grant from Legislature - -	2,200
Extra grant - - - -	300
Sale of materials - - -	18
	£2,518

1 The present estimated expenditure is 2,528*l.* 4*s.*

BAHAMAS.

Agriculture.

128. The cultivation of the soil is becoming to be more recognised as a stern necessity. The raking of salt, which formed one of the chief industries on some of our outlying islands has languished because of the absence of demand.

129. The great demand for pineapples, and the stimulus given to cocoanut planting by several most enterprising gentlemen who have established large groves, the readiness with which this tree grows in the sandy soil of the islands, and their freedom from blight, have disposed many to venture on the cultivation of the cocoanut. There can be no limit to the cultivation of the cocoanut, which will in a few years hence become an important export.

130. The crop of oranges was smaller than in 1880, and the insect still continues its ravages. If not arrested the destruction of the citrus tribe will be immense.

131. The cultivation of tobacco, as before remarked, was abandoned, not because it does not grow in the Bahamas soil, it grows readily, but being tried under the most favourable conditions, grown from seed sent us from the Vuelta Abajo district, Cuba, and samples of the cured leaf having been sent to England, the experts pronounced upon it most unfavourably, declaring it to be bitter, coarse, veiny, and dark, in fact, unmarketable. Suggestions were made that the fault lay in the process of curing, but two Cubans well avouched, one as coming from the Vuelta Abajo district, with a practical acquaintance of the art, were employed by the Government; they not only cured the leaf but superintended the cultivation of the plant.

132. The duties in the United States on tobacco are excessively high, being for leaf 36 cents per pound, and for manufactured 30 cents per pound, quite prohibitory.

133. Analyses of the soils of Cuba and Bahamas would detect the cause of the difference between the tobacco grown in the two localities, and might enable us to supply to the poor soil of the Bahamas the constituents proper for its growth. The Board of Agriculture will, I believe, make an effort in this direction.

134. Cinchona has been tried, but our islands are too low. At an elevation of less than 2,000 feet the plant will not thrive.

135. Wages vary, but are usually from 1*s.* 3*d.* to 1*s.* 6*d.* per diem.

(Signed) E. B. A. TAYLOR,
Colonial Secretary.

DOMINICA.

No. 5.

Governor Sir J. H. GLOVER, G.C.M.G., to the Right Hon. the EARL OF KIMBERLEY.

Government House, Antigua,
October 11, 1882.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship the Blue Book of Dominica for the year 1881, with the President's report thereon.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN H. GLOVER.

The Right Hon.
The Earl of Kimberley,
&c. &c.

REPORT on the BLUE BOOK for the ISLAND OF DOMINICA for the Year 1881.

No. 1.

Finance.

The following return shows the ordinary revenue and expenditure of the Presidency for the year 1881 :—

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Expenditure on account of ordinary services	18,228	19	4			
Expenditure on account of Yaws hospitals	1,734	2	5			
Liabilities incurred but not paid on the 31st December	300	0	0			
				20,263	1	9
The revenue derived from ordinary sources gave during the year	17,375	2	3½			
The revenue derived from the additional tax imposed for Yaws purposes gave	1,573	18	1			
In hands of Provost Marshal on uncollected warrants	100	0	0			
				19,049	0	4½
Showing that the expenditure of the year exceeded the revenue by				1,214	0	4½

DOMINICA.

To liquidate the excess of expenditure and to meet certain special services it was found necessary to raise a loan of 5,000*l.* A portion of this loan has been disbursed as follows:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
The excess of actual payments, deducting the outstandings -	1,014	1	4½
Falconer *v.* Doyle - -	546	19	3¾
Roseau River embankment -	209	13	6
Extension of water works -	160	2	6
Arrears of payments of 1880 paid in 1881 - - -	566	17	2½
	2,497	13	10¾

Leaving 2,502*l.* 6*s.* 1¼*d.* of the loan unexpended, this balance is distributed as follows:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
In hands of Crown Agents -	1,900	0	5
In hands of Treasurer, general account - - -	532	3	3¼
In hands of Colonial Bank, special	70	2	5
	2,502	6	1¼

The above shows the receipts and expenditure for the year. I now give a statement of the financial position of the Presidency on the 31st December 1881:—

No. 2.

Assets.

	£	*s.*	*d.*
In hands of Crown Agents	1,900	0	5
„ Treasurer -	532	3	3¼
„ Colonial Bank	70	2	5
„ Federal Government, being excess of remittances - -	61	16	7½
Waterworks sinking fund	777	10	0
Loan 1880 „ -	28	0	0
Warrants uncollected in Provost Marshal's hands	100	0	0
	3,469	12	8¾
Excess of liabilities on 31st December 1881 -	9,345	2	5¾
	12,814	15	2½

Liabilities.

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Waterworks loan -	5,900	0	0
Yaws loan -	1,000	0	0
Loan 1880 -	5,000	0	0
Escheat estate - -	614	15	2½
Unpaid accounts - -	300	0	0
	12,814	15	2½

From these figures it appears that the expenditure exceeded the revenue by 1,014*l.* To this sum must be added 300*l.* for outstanding current liabilities, less about 100*l.* remaining due on warrants in the Marshal's hands. The supplementary votes amounted to 2,192*l.*, and were principally for hospitals, roads, repairs to jetty and sea wall (injured by the gale of 1880) and expenses of quarantine; the larger portion of this expenditure was beyond control.

To remove the present, and provide against future, deficits, a tax of ten per centum on the principal sources of revenue has been imposed for two years.

The following returns for the past five years will be interesting :—

Years.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1877 - -	19,162	19,154
1878 - -	20,998	19,918
1879 - -	19,024	19,739
1880 - -	20,326	19,754
1881 - -	19,049	20,263

REVENUE detailed, PRINCIPAL SOURCES.

—	1877.	1878.	1879.	1880.	1881.
	£	£	£	£	£
Customs - -	8,203	9,455	9,556	10,269	9,721
Excise - -	2,609	2,434	2,460	2,904	2,674
Stamp duty - -	352	332	364	358	335
Licenses - -	1,118	1,119	1,217	1,365	1,272
Fines, penalties, &c. -	1,114	1,236	1,315	1,396	1,185
Rents - -	86	48	49	97	96
Taxes - -	912	915	683	705	659
Waterworks - -	115	84	111	70	—
Road funds - -	1,627	1,551	1,443	1,306	1,302
Yaws tax - -	1,429	1,524	1,555	1,677	1,573

EXPENDITURE detailed, PRINCIPAL SOURCES.

—	1877.	1878.	1879.	1880.	1881.
	£	£	£	£	£
Civil establishment -	2,752	2,011	2,401	2,411	3,484
Judicial - -	2,824	2,631	2,620	2,644	2,590
Treasury - -	1,310	1,462	1,042	1,028	1,055
Police - -	1,326	1,385	1,419	1,263	1,254
Gaol - - -	773	772	353	321	779
Education - -	785	786	954	987	952
Hospitals - -	1,632	1,713	1,954	1,766	2,224
Works and buildings -	469	486	739	613	642
Roads and bridges -	1,206	1,248	1,650	1,789	1,813
Lights and signals -	176	115	144	129	113
Board of Health -	29	89	51	201	245
Printing - -	253	244	310	206	293
Pensions - -	292	272	278	488	598
Hurricane loan, &c. -	929	952	952	804	175
Miscellaneous -	1,067	675	804	900	1,040
Telegraph - -	400	400	400	200	400
Yaws hospital -	2,058	1,885	1,643	1,882	1,734

Principal Articles Exported.

Year.	Sugar.	Molasses.	Rum.	Coffee.	Cocoa.	Farine Manioc.	Lime Juice.	Tamarinds.	Log Wood.	Fire Wood.
	Cwt.	Galls.	Galls.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Bushels	Galls.	Pkgs.	Tons.	Cords.
1877 -	57,751	78,679	7,660	35,382	367,146	873	6,201	223	29	1,267
1878 -	66,403	117,946	10,876	1,846	342,945	2,342	10,981	238	18¼	1,434
1879 -	69,213	74,520	3,592	10,877	411,704	1,206	18,416	444	21½	1,071½
1880 -	65,691	101,105	8,643	475	429,771	760	17,031	531	23	919
1881 -	45,296	61,150	3,150	8,113	757,866	364	21,287	386	48	803

Shipping.

Year.	Entered.			Cleared.		
	Ships.	Tonnage.	Crews.	Ships.	Tonnage.	Crews.
1877 -	476	12,755	1,980	469	13,060	1,988
1878 -	471	13,278	1,879	442	12,697	1,875
1879 -	478	13,578	2,007	471	13,384	2,026
1880 -	359	11,223	1,652	356	11,041	1,618
1881 - S.	293	9,164	1,264	284	9,578	1,309
1881 - SS.	72	89,771	2,160	72	89,771	2,160

Tonnage, 1881.

Entered.		Cleared.
96,415	British	87,765
728	French	671
1,554	American	1,086
238	Dutch	249
98,935		89,771

The Public Debt

Consists of:—

	£	s.	d.
The Water Works Loan -	5,900	0	0
The Yaws Building Loan -	1,000	0	0
The Loan of 1880 - -	5,000	0	0
The Sinking Fund for the Water Works Debentures amounts to - - - -	777	10	0

Imports, 1881.

Imported from			
Great Britain.	British West Indies.	Foreign West Indies.	United States.
£ 25,687	£ 21,648	£ 6,760	£ 10,873

Exports, 1881.

Exported to			
Great Britain.	British West Indies.	Foreign West Indies.	United States.
£ 43,556	£ 3,080	£ 2,723	£ 5,804

Legislation.

The legislation for the year was almost entirely confined to finance. The usual Appropriation Acts were passed for 1881 and 1882, and a loan for a limited amount and period was sanctioned, with concurrent taxation, for its liquidation. A Road Act was repealed, and one promising greater efficiency, economy, and a larger revenue was adopted. The Savings Bank Act was subjected to some amendments, and the formation and alteration of the districts, and the salaries of the medical officers, under the Medical Aid Act, were placed under the control of the Governor in Council.

Census.

The returns of Registrar General show an increase during the past 10 years of 1,033*l.*, or 3·83 per cent., the population being 28,211 as against 27,178, in 1871. The proportion of sexes are:—males, 12,737; females, 14,441. The increase as regards sexes is, 1·02 per cent. for males, and 6·25 per cent. for females. This increase in the face of the large emigration to the Venezuelan gold mines is very satisfactory. The religious denominations are thus numbered:—

Roman Catholics - - -	25,210
Anglicans - - - -	768
Wesleyans - - - -	2,202
Moravians - - - -	10
Others - - - -	21

The civil condition of the people is represented by 6,333 married persons, 20,379 unmarried, 1,192 widows, and 307 widowers.

DOMINICA.

The occupations are thus recorded:—Officials 34; police 25; bailiffs 9; labourers 11,352; 587 small proprietors; 92 planters; 49 managers. Professions:—1 bishop; 19 clergymen; 1 friar; 5 medical men; 2 barristers; 1 solicitor; 1 land surveyor, 403 were engaged in commerce; 30 school teachers; 18 nuns; scholars, 2,428; domestic servants, 1,140; unoccupied and children, 9,136; in hospital 86 paupers; 186 Yaws patients, and 26 prisoners.

The birthplaces are given as follows:—27,204 Dominicans; 401 British West Indians; 91 Europeans; 313 Foreign West Indians; 164 Africans; 25 East Indians, and 13 from other places.

There are 300 Caribs in the Presidency, of whom 173 were numbered as pure, and 136 are the offsprings of marriages with the natives.

Savings Bank.

This institution is gradually developing its usefulness. The deposits amount to 695*l.*, but an examination into the details of the institution are unsatisfactory: inasmuch as the savings of the poor and thrifty are not yet deposited in safe keeping; out of 45 depositors, 10 only are less than 20*s.*; 18, under 5*l.*; 6 under 10*l.*; 4 under 20*l.*; the remaining seven being for larger sums.

I again venture to suggest the establishment of penny savings banks throughout the Island, and by this means protecting the poor from the too frequently recurring loss of their small earnings by their dishonest neighbours and kinsfolk.

Sanitary.

It was a matter of thankfulness that the year passed without any serious epidemic, although our neighbours in Guadalope and Martinique suffered so severely, and for so protracted a period, from yellow fever. Whooping cough and infantile diseases carried off very many children, the mortality under seven years being nearly 50 per centum of the annual deaths. It is much to be feared that a great want of appreciation still exists of the medical provision so liberally provided for the labouring classes by the legislature; a fair amount of vaccination was performed during the year.

Inland Letter and Parcel Post.

This unassuming mark of progress continues to work successfully; upwards of 5,000 letters passing in one year through the post, with a population of only 28,000, the bulk of whom are non-writers, speaks well for its utility.

In addition to these letters, 366 newspapers, 579 parcels and 649*l.* were safely conveyed along our mountain roads. The physical formation of Dominica, with its consequent expense of transit, renders the penny post a necessity for our people, as it affords a bi-weekly communication with the greater portion of the Island, at a nominal cost, both to the letter writer and the Government.

Rainfall for the Year 1881.

		Roseau.	Sugar loaf.	Clark Hall.	Bath.	Wall House.	Goodwill.	Canefield.	Hills-borough.	Castle Bruce.	London-derry.	Eden.	Woodford Hill.	Hamp-stead.
1	January	1·99	4·31	2·64	3·26	1·59	2·28	1·93	1·65	1·94	2·58	2·45	2·52	2·6
2	February	1·23	3·19	3·28	1·71	0·80	1·31	0·3	1·43	3·43	3·40	1·53	2·56	2·26
3	March	0·40	1·63	1·52	0·41	0·50	0·34	0·00	0·65	5·77	3·65	3·62	2·57	2·27
4	April	2·63	8·82	6·22	2·67	3·31	2·23	2·32	3·41	6·19	7·58	8·33	8·78	8·03
5	May	1·43	3·94	3·83	2·26	3·07	1·18	1·60	1·65	17·07	11·34	10·15	10·70	3·94
6	June	14·03	25·77	22·84	15·13	17·59	15·47	13·31	14·77	29·41	21·29	22·77	24·54	18·41
7	July	10·64	9·76	14·02	13·32	14·00	11·18	12·08	9·54	7·73	7·29	6·41	7·04	6·59
8	August	13·45	15·27	13·78	14·33	14·47	12·68	10·58	11·77	15·74	12·10	14·22	10·77	10·90
8	September	13·13	19·58	14·08	13·15	14·57	13·22	11·89	10·24	14·98	14·33	16·63	11·49	14·12
10	October	4·49	7·73	7·48	6·64	4·95	4·64	6·13	4·08	5·63	5·40	5·02	4·95	4·44
11	November	19·38	24·60	26·45	22·70	16·72	22·60	19·92	21·49	16·29	14·02	11·18	8·24	11·39
12	December	3·61	5·08	7·18	5·93	5·33	4·01	4·78	3·86	7·29	4·34	2·67	2·37	3·65
	Total	86·41	129·68	123·32	101·51	96·90	91·14	84·54	84·54	130·147	107·32	104·98	96·53	88·65

Criminal.

The marked diminution in crime deserves special notice.

The committals to gaol in 1878 were 397; in 1879 328; in 1880 271, and in 1881 192.

The return of fines from the petty sessions show also a diminution of 25 per centum from the preceding year, being 887*l.* 7*s.* 4*d.* in 1880, and 665*l.* 13*s.* 1*d.* in 1881.

I attribute this decrease to the more prosperous condition of the people: no alteration has been made in the fees of the inferior courts which might have acted as a deterrent against litigation.

General.

Amongst the group of the Federal Islands, aye, and I might extend the comparison far beyond this narrow limit, Dominica possesses undoubtedly the greatest natural resources.

The almost unfailing rainfall, the varied temperature, the healthy climate, the richness of her soil, the vast acreage of virgin land, the valuable products of her forests, her shaded valleys, her numberless streams, supplying an unlimited motive power, her varied products, her geographical position, her telegraphic communication, her facilities of steam locomotion, give vast scope for enterprise, and offer certain success to the capitalist. Labour is wanted, but the demand would prove a powerful factor in supplying this want.

The cane crop failed last year, shipments being 1,000 tons less than 1880, but even in past years the cane never was the staple of the Island, and I fear never will be.

The export of cocoa crop reached 757,866 pounds, as against 429,771 in 1880, and 185,587 in 1875. The increased cultivation of this valuable product is very large, and it is confidently expected that with good weather a million of pounds will be exported this year.

The exports of coffee were only 8,113 pounds, a vast increase on the previous year, but our native berry still suffers from the blight. Liberian coffee, however, is standing its ground, and remains unaffected by disease, and 1882 will inaugurate its exportation. Succeeding years will swell the returns of this valuable product, from the maturing fruit of the numberless trees that are being cultivated with care by several of our planters.

Lime juice ranks amongst our valuable exports. The shipments this year were of concentrated juice, 21,287 gallons, against 16,977 gallons in 1880, and 2,885 gallons in 1875. The evaporation, as a rule, is 10 gallons to 1 gallon, and the value is about 8*s.* 4*d.* per gallon in the United States; unconcentrated juice is neglected; 1,675 gallons were exported.

The development of the fruit trade by the line of steamers to New York has been successful, and a hitherto waste product has been turned to profitable account.

The export of bay leaf (Bois d' Inde) for the preparation of the oil is carried on with vigour, 581 bales of an average weight of 300 pounds were shipped last year.

The export of tamarinds, firewood, logwood, farine, canoe shells, starch, ginger, cocoanuts and ground provisions afford a miniature wealth to the labouring population who are almost independent of imported food.

The acquisition of land is readily obtained, and at moderate rates, 1*l.* per acre is the usual rate of Crown lands.

With all these natural advantages, Dominica certainly possesses attractions to those who are leaving the old Country for distant lands in search of new homes.

(Signed) C. M. ELDRIDGE.

MONTSERRAT.

No. 6.

Governor Sir J. H. GLOVER, G.C.M.G., to the Right Hon. the EARL OF KIMBERLEY.

Government House, Antigua,
October 27, 1882.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship the Blue Book of Montserrat for the year 1881, with the Acting President's report thereon.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN H. GLOVER.

The Right Hon.
The Earl of Kimberley,
&c. &c.

Montserrat, October 20, 1882.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward to his Excellency the Governor the Blue Book of this Presidency for 1881 with the accompanying financial statement.

Finance.

	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
For 1879 - - - - -	5,689	5,552
„ 1880 - - - - -	5,177	5,997
„ 1881 - - - - -	5,317	5,718

MONTSERRAT.

The chief sources of revenue are :—

	£
Import duty - - - - -	2,125
Export " - - - - -	431
Land and house tax raised by a per-centage of 15*s.* per 100*l.* on valuation - - -	1,188
Excise on rum manufactured in the Island and entered for home consumption, 2*s.* per imperial gallon, and ½*d.* extra for every degree above proof - - - - - -	776
Licenses for sale of spirits, wines, malt, &c. -	217
A horse tax - - - - -	197

Trade.

	Imports.	Exports.
	Value. £	Value. £
1879 - - - - -	26,495	35,683
1880 - - - - -	25,364	29,121
1881 - - - -	25,346	35,205

Shipping, 1881.

Entered.			Cleared.		
Ships.	Tons.	Crew.	Ships.	Tons.	Crew.
243	6,891	922	246	6,480	952

The chief articles of export in 1881 were :—

Sugar.			Molasses.	Lime Juice, Concentrated.		Lime Juice, Raw.
Hogsheads.	Tierces.	Barrels.	Puncheons.	Puncheons.	Hogsheads.	Puncheons.
5	1,914	2,779	218	14	1	881

Lime Essence.	Pickled Limes.	Fresh Limes.	Tamarinds.	Potatoes.
Cases.	Barrels.	Boxes.	Barrels.	Barrels.
58	200	782	139	283

Horned Cattle.	Sheep.	Goats.	Pigs.	Horses.	Firewood Cords.
193	30	53	86	7	390

Agriculture.

The sugar crop of 1881 was equal to 1,628 hogsheads. The cultivation of limes has greatly increased. On several sugar estates the cane cultivation is being supplemented by the planting of limes.

Population.

The following is a comparative statement of the Census taken, viz:—

——	Males.	Females.	Total.
In 1861 - - -	3,447	4,198	7,645
„ 1871 - - -	3,978	4,715	8,693
„ 1881 - - -	4,639	5,444	10,083

Savings Bank.

Dr. Cr.

£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
—			4 depositors under 1*l.* - - - -	1	18	6
—			5 „ over 1*l.*, under 5*l.* - - -	10	15	10
—			4 „ „ 5*l.* „ 10*l.* - - -	27	16	4
—			6 „ „ 10*l.* „ 20*l.* - - -	85	8	1
—			4 „ „ 20*l.* „ 30*l.* - - -	88	15	6
—			1 „ „ 30*l.* „ 40*l.* - - -	30	8	5
—			2 „ „ 40*l.* „ 50*l.* - - -	83	15	8
—			2 „ „ 50*l.* „ 60*l.* - - -	108	1	9
—			1 „ „ 60*l.* „ 70*l.* - - -	66	7	5
6	18	4	Interest account.			
350	0	0	Colonial Bank on Interest.			
146	19	2	Treasurer's hands.			
503	17	6		503	17	6

MONTSERRAT.

The healthiness of the Island was as usual good. The number of births, after deducting 16 still-births, were 437, and the deaths were 193.

Provision is made for furnishing the town of Plymouth with an abundant supply of fresh water from one of the mountain springs, and the work is in progress. The engineer did not realize his expectation to have the water into the town in December 1881, although the work was considerably advanced towards completion.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. MEADE,
Acting President.

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary
of the Leeward Islands, Antigua.

VIRGIN ISLANDS.

VIRGIN ISLANDS.

No. 7.

Governor SIR J. H. GLOVER, G.C.M.G., to the Right Hon. the EARL OF KIMBERLEY.

Government House, Antigua,
September 15, 1882.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship the Blue Book of the Virgin Islands for the year 1881, with the Acting President's report thereon.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN H. GLOVER,
Governor.

The Right Hon.
The Earl of Kimberley,
&c. &c.

PRESIDENT DYETT to the COLONIAL SECRETARY.

Government Office, Tortola,
August 2, 1882.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith the Blue Book of this Presidency for the year 1881, and to submit the following report thereon.

Revenue.

		£	*s.*	*d.*
1880	- - -	2,247	13	8
1881	- - -	1,604	5	0

2. The revenue of last year will from this statement appear to have fallen short of that of 1880 by 643*l.* 8*s.* 8*d.*, but the deficiency has not been so large as it would seem, for of the excess

above shown in the receipts of the former year, 500*l.* was received for the sale of certain lands, which, through default in payment of the land tax some years ago, had become the property of the Crown, and 135*l.* 3*s.* 4*d.* was derived from arrears of the past year's income; deducting these two amounts, therefore, the actual difference between the two years receipts will be only 8*l.* 5*s.* 4*d.*

Expenditure.

	£	*s.*	*d.*
1880 - - -	2,130	9	0
1881 - - -	1,735	14	0

3. The expenditure shows a decrease of 395*l.* 15*s.* 0*d.* as compared with that of 1880. The expenditure for 1880 was unusually larger than ordinary, owing to disbursements on account of works and buildings, the payment to owner of lands whose properties had become forfeited by reason of nonpayment of taxes of the surplus arising from the sales of the lands, and a larger amount of the arrears of the former year having been paid off.

Public Works.

4. The gaol is, I regret to state, from want of funds, in an almost ruinous condition.

The poor house is now in good order, having recently been thoroughly repaired.

The public wharves at Road Harbour and West End are both in good order.

Legislation.

5. Four Ordinances were passed and assented to by the Governor during the year, namely two Appropriation Ordinances, one for amending the Boat License Ordinance, by which all licenses become due at the same time every year, and one amending the Cattle Tax Ordinance, by which the tax on horses and mules is increased from 2*s.* to 4*s.* per head.

Education.

6. This subject is so thoroughly dealt with by the Inspector of Schools in his annual reports that nothing remains for me to write on the subject, except to remark that the payment of exceptional aid to schools in this Presidency which fail to attain the required standard and obtain a class appears to me undesirable, as I have every reason to believe that in order to obtain some aid very questionable practices are resorted to by the teachers on the annual visit of the Inspector; at present no aid is given to failed schools, and I shall be sorry if any be awarded to them again.

VIRGIN ISLANDS.

Imports and Exports.

7. There was a falling off in the revenue derived from these sources, though not to a large amount, being only 28*l.* 12*s.* 2*d.* on imports and 19*l.* 15*s.* 6*d.* on exports. From the commencement of this year, with the sanction of Her Majesty's Secretary of State, the vessel formerly employed in the mail service exclusively has now been taken over at an increased rate of charter and is used in the protection of the revenue also, and a revenue officer has lately been appointed to her. I anticipate from this a considerable increase in the revenue from customs duties, as the permanent employment of a revenue vessel must tend considerably to check the hitherto wholesale practice of smuggling.

8. I regret that I am not yet able to report the commencement by Mr. Godden of his mining operations at Virgin Gorda, to which allusion was made by Captain Churchill in his report on the Blue Book for 1880, and from which considerable improvement in the general condition of the Presidency is expected, owing to the very great amount of labour which will be employed, thus enlarging, or rather, I should say, establishing, a great amount of trade and commerce to which these Islands have been strangers for many years past.

9. Mr. Godden is still acquiring large tracts of land at Virgin Gorda, and I anxiously look forward to the time, which I trust is not now far off, when it will be the pleasing duty of the President to report a more healthy and prosperous condition of the finances, and of the Islands generally.

I have, &c.
(Signed) R. H. DYETT.

The Hon.
The Colonial Secretary.
&c. &c.
Leeward Islands.

ST. KITTS.

No. 8.

Governor Sir J. H. Glover, G.C.M.G., to the Right Hon. the Earl of Kimberley.

Government House, Antigua,
September 28th, 1882.

My Lord,

I have the honour to transmit to your Lordship the Blue Book of St. Kitts for the year 1881, with President Eldridge's report thereon.

I have, &c.
(Signed) John H. Glover,
Governor.

The Right Hon.
The Earl of Kimberley,
&c. &c.

Sir, President's Office, September 5, 1882.

I have the honour to transmit the annual Blue Book in triplicate. I regret the delay that has arisen in its preparation, but I have made every effort to carry out the arrangements made by President Moir for the completion of the work.

The very lengthy and interesting report made by Mr. Moir last year, and my own recent arrival in the Presidency, must be offered as my reasons for the few comments which accompany the present Blue Book.

The financial year was not as favourable as usual. The expenditure was largely in excess of the receipts, being 31,453*l.* 0*s.* 1*d.* against 29,908*l.* 14*s.* 9*d.*, thus absorbing the last year's balance of 1,152*l.* 4*s.* 2*d.*, and leaving an amount of 392*l.* 1*s.* 2*d.* unprovided for. The past short crop caused decreased receipts to the amount of 2,212*l.*; while extra outlay on roads 547*l.*, on waterworks 577*l.*, and the payment of arrears of the telegraph subsidy 800*l.* (withheld on account of broken lines), all assisted in adding to the difficulties of the year.

The only matter of local importance that occurred was the taking of the Census, and the following facts are interesting.

The population is returned at 29,127. Males 13,706, females 15,431; the increase in the past decade being 968, or "equal to 3·4 per cent. for the 10 years," against 1·59 during "the preceding decade."

This small increase is thus accounted for by the Registrar-General.

"The principal reasons are that during 1872–73–74 the seasons were unfavourable and in consequence there was a considerable

St. Kitts.

exodus to other islands, and although that unusual outflow has now ceased, yet its effects are still apparent."

The death-rate also during these seasons "was higher than in "any year since the epidemic of cholera in 1854" and "the loss "of life by the flood of the 12th January 1880."

The following comparison with the Census of 1871 is very interesting:—

	1871.	1881.
Average inhabitants in each house - -	4·68	4·74
Proportion males, to whole population -	47·07	47·04
„ females „ „ -	52·93	52·96
„ married persons - -	20·32	20·52
„ unmarried - - -	74·80	74·28
„ widows - - - -	3·98	3·97
„ widowers - - -	·90	1·13
„ deaf - - - -	·020	·017
„ dumb - - - -	·007	·007
„ blind - - - -	·026	·030

There is an increase of 1,900 agricultural labourers, and a decreased settling in the towns.

The religious classification is as follows:—Anglicans 8,424, Wesleyans 13,246, Roman Catholics 1,593.

I have, &c.

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary, Antigua.

(Signed) C. M. Eldridge, Acting President.

Gold Coast.

GOLD COAST.

No. 9.

Administrator Moloney, C.M.G., to the Right Hon. the Earl of Kimberley

Christiansborg Castle, Accra, October 3, 1882

My Lord,

I have the honour to forward to your Lordship my report on the Blue Book of the Settlement on the Gold Coast for 1881.

As soon as the compilation of the Blue Book has been completed, which I may say is almost now the case, I mean to have it handed over to the Printing Department of the Government.

Taxes, Duties, and Fees.

There have been no changes in these sources of supply as compared with the taxes, duties, and fees of the previous year.

Revenue and Expenditure.

I will preface any further remarks, under the foregoing heads, by reminding your Lordship of the exceptional demand that has been made during the year on the funds of the Gold Coast, consequent on expenses that it was deemed necessary to incur in the provision considered requisite towards placing the Government in a position to meet whatever might have been the outcome of the strained relations between it and the Kingdom of Ashanti.

The following table shows the receipts of the two past years:—

Heads of Receipts.	1881.	1880.	Increase.	Decrease.
Customs.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Specific	85,077 8 9	92,461 9 5	—	7,384 0 8
Ad valorem	9,673 4 0	10,189 13 7	—	516 9 7
Fines, fees, and forfeitures of Court	3,822 14 11	5,541 6 6	—	1,718 11 7
Hospital receipts	4 10 0	24 8 6	—	19 18 6
Post Office C.P. Col. share	295 2 2	463 7 10	—	168 5 8
Inland postage	77 0 6	74 7 4	2 13 2	—
Commissions on money orders	21 19 1	40 4 1	—	18 5 0
Profit on gold dust shipped	224 2 9	255 1 0	—	30 18 3
Sales of Government property	111 1 2	529 11 6	—	418 10 4
Licenses	3,813 11 0	3,560 15 0	252 16 0	—
Interest on investments	2,426 12 3	1,203 6 0	1,223 6 3	—
Over payments refunded	630 1 8	320 3 11	309 17 9	—
Lighthouse dues	390 11 0	424 3 6	—	33 12 6
Lagos contribution	2,178 15 0	3,631 5 0	—	1,452 10 0
Miscellaneous receipts	476 16 5	780 19 1	—	304 2 8
	109,223 10 8	119,500 2 3	1,788 13 2	12,065 4 9
Special receipts	7,199 19 11	—	7,199 19 11	—
Total	116,423 10 7	119,500 2 3	8,988 13 1	12,065 4 9

MEMORANDUM.

	£ s. d.
Amount of decreased ordinary Receipts	12,065 4 9
„ increased „	1,788 13 2
Nett decrease on the year	10,276 11 7

GOLD COAST.

The Revenue is represented by 116,423*l.* 10*s.* 7*d.* in 1881 as against 119,500*l.* 2*s.* 3*d.* for the previous year. In the former amount, however, the sum of 7,199*l.* 19*s.* 11*d.* is included, and represents the nominal value of gold received in special payments by the Ashantis as a peace offering and as a proof of sincerity on the part of their king, in explanation of the conduct of his ambassadors; thus is left a balance of 109,223*l.* 10*s.* 8*d.*, which must be viewed as the total of ordinary receipts, against 99,000*l.* the estimated Revenue for 1881, with the result of a surplus of 10,223*l.* 10*s.* 8*d.*

The excess receipts in 1880 over those in 1881 are attributable to less imports in the latter year, due no doubt to a falling off in market demand in consequence of the state of affairs previously alluded to. Under the head "Customs," alone, there was a falling off by 7,900*l.* 10*s.* 3*d.* I will instance the sum of 74,643*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.*, as representing the duty on rum imported from America in 1880, while in last year only 61,276*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.* were received under the same head of imports, showing a falling off of 13,366*l.* 15*s.* 0*d.* There was therefore less consumption or more smuggling; in view of the increased Customs Staff the Government would naturally incline towards the former conclusion. Similarly, in gin from the United Kingdom, there was a falling off to the extent of 1,599*l.* 19*s.* 2*d.*, in 1881, as compared with 1880; for while in the former year duties amounted to 4,769*l.* 13*s.* 6*d.*, in the latter they amounted to 6,369*l.* 12*s.* 8*d.* On the other hand there were increases of imports in tobacco from the United States of America, and in gunpowder; the duties on the former being represented by 6,502*l.* 14*s.* 6*d.*, in 1880, against 9,939*l.* 0*s.* 6*d.* in 1881; the admission of the latter by the proclamation of the 11th July 1881, and the great demand there must have been for it, due to the previous prohibition of 31st January 1881 against its importation, and consequent race with such commodity for the market, will account for the increase in gunpowder.

It has been said that there is a growing taste among the better class of natives for malt, in preference to alcoholic drink, which may in some slight measure perhaps account for the falling off in the importation of rum, and is supported by the fact that whereas in 1880 there were but 7,306 gallons of beer and porter introduced the importations were represented last year by 23,135 gallons. In favour of the growth of such a taste are the facts that the duty is 6*d.* a gallon as compared with 2*s.* 6*d.* per gallon on rum, and that there is no licensing duty for the sale of malt liquors. It was considered desirable at the time of the passing of the Spirit License Ordinance 1875 to give this degree of encouragement to such persons as might be desirous of opening stores for the sale of the less intoxicating beverages.

The actual Expenditure for 1881 has been 134,776*l.* 5*s.* 11*d.* as compared with 86,956*l.* 18*s.* 1*d.* for 1880, and against the estimate 90,760*l.* for last year. There is thus shown an excess over estimate of 44,016*l.* 5*s.* 11*d.*, and over the outlay of the previous year of 47,819*l.* 7*s.* 10*d.*

The expenditure for the last two years is shown in the following table:—

Heads of Expenditure.	Expenditure 1881.	Expenditure 1880.	Increase.	Decrease.
Establishments	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Salaries fixed	54,239 0 10	50,515 9 1	3,723 11 9	—
Do. pro. and tem.	303 10 3	13 12 0	289 18 3	—
Allowances	1,203 2 0	1,009 14 11	193 7 1	—
Contingencies	547 18 7	1,312 15 0	—	764 16 5
Services, exclusive of Establishments.				
Executive Council	42 11 3	22 7 0	20 4 3	—
Customs and Treasury	1,128 7 9	847 7 2	281 0 7	—
Post Office	133 3 10	108 8 7	24 15 3	—
Supreme Court	1,011 6 3	1,528 17 7	—	517 11 4
Charitable allowances	80 6 10	219 3 4	—	138 16 6
Educational	350 0 0	525 0 0	—	175 0 0
Constabulary	3,475 15 5	2,660 13 0	815 2 5	—
Gaols	1,860 8 5	2,016 9 0	—	156 0 7
Public Works and Survey	10,687 8 3	10,426 7 8	261 0 7	—
Medical	576 6 8	878 17 5	—	302 10 9
Sanitary	291 10 1	238 15 5	52 14 8	—
Marine	8,934 9 3	3,341 5 0	5,593 4 3	—
Rent	864 17 1	854 4 7	10 12 6	—
Transport	8,152 17 9	7,125 15 3	1,027 2 6	—
Aborigines	1,696 12 8	1,134 9 1	562 3 7	—
Miscellaneous	2,493 18 6	1,654 7 9	839 10 9	—
Pensions, gratuities, &c.	614 10 4	522 19 3	91 11 1	—
	98,688 2 0	86,956 18 1	13,785 19 6	2,054 15 7
Special expenses	36,088 3 11	—	36,088 3 11	—
Total	134,776 5 11	86,956 18 1	49,874 3 5	2,054 15 7

I may at once explain that of the excess of 44,016*l.* 5*s.* 11*d.* over the estimated expenditure of the year, the sum of 36,088*l.* 3*s.* 11*d.*, is returned as special expenses, consequent on the equipment and other outlay due, as explained previously, to the Ashanti difficulty. The sum of 8,654*l.* 12*s.* 9*d.* has been expended under the head of "Government vessels" for the purchase of "Ekuro" and her keep, and for which no provision had been made in the estimates which were framed in 1880, before anything was decided as to the acquisition by the Gold Coast of a steamer. 1,048*l.* 0*s.* 1*d.*, have been supplied as salaries for the supervisors of Customs, appointed also after the framing of the estimates.

Of the expenditure of 8,654*l.* 12*s.* 9*d.* under "Government Vessels," the sum of 4350*l.*, the cost of the "Ekuro," must be viewed as extra-ordinary, which with 36,088*l.* 3*s.* 11*d.*, special Ashanti expenditure, equals 40,438*l.* 3*s.* 11*d.*, which I consider exceptional. The actual expenditure for the year when reduced by this sum will appear as 94,338*l.* 2*s.* 0*d.*, which although in excess by 3,578*l.* 2*s.* 0*d.* of the estimated outlay, which is to be accounted for by provision not having been made in the estimates although sanction had been received for the same (say upkeep of Government vessels, which amounted, exclusive of cost of "Ekuro," to 4,304*l.* 12*s.* 9*d.*), yet is well covered by even the Estimated Revenue of 99,000*l.*, and much more so of course by the actual ordinary receipts of 109,223*l.* 10*s.* 8*d.*

Gold Coast.

The difference between the excesses of 1881 and 1880, viz. :— 3,803*l.* 1*s.* 11*d.*, I am not at present in the position, (final audit not having yet come about) to give to your Lordship the exact detail and cause.

Against the amount, however, I gather from the accounts that there may be placed 1,027*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.* on account of excess of Transport charges during the former year, some of which is of a special nature, and 2,675*l.* 11*s.* 8*d.* on account of salaries fixed in excess of establishment 1880 in connection with new district, medical and constabulary appointments; this is over and above the item of 1,648*l.* 0*s.* 1*d.* included in this review.

Public Debt.

There is no public debt of the Gold Coast. From such a statement I of course exclude the question of sums due to litigants and deposited temporarily by the Court in the Treasury.

As will be observed under the head "Revenue and Expenditure" of this Report, there were extraordinary expenses during the year, which amounted to 36,088*l.* 3*s.* 11*d.*, and have been paid from Surplus Revenue. There has however been additionally a further special outlay of 21,837*l.* 9*s.* 7*d.*, so far as I know caused by the preparations of the apprehended war with Ashanti, which has been paid from Army and Navy Funds, but will have to be refunded by the Colony.

Military Expenditure.

There is but one Military Station on the Gold Coast, viz., at Cape Coast.

It is at present garrisoned by two companies of the First West India Regiment, detailed as follows :—8 officers, 14 non-commissioned officers, and 174 rank and file.

Information rendered by the local military authorities goes to show that the amount expended during 1881 by Great Britain for the military protection, and in aid of the civil establishment of the Gold Coast, was 26,120*l.* 19*s.* 7*d.*, as compared with 12,621*l.* 5*s.* 1*d.* in 1880. The former amount is given as local expenditure, and is exclusive of cost of arms and accoutrements, of cost of salt and preserved meat and of biscuits from England, of transport of officers from England, and of cost of miscellaneous and ordnance stores.

In consequence of the strained relations with the kingdom of Ashanti in the early part of the year this garrison was increased from a normal strength of 201 by the arrival at Cape Coast on the 2nd February of 214 officers and men of the First West India Regiment from Sierra Leone, and on the 12th March by a further arrival of 59 officers and men of the same regiment.

The garrison on the 10th May consisted of 803 officers and men, having been increased by the arrival on the 18th March of

Her Majesty's ship "Humber," with Colonel Justice, and a portion of the officers and men of the Second West India Regiment from West Indies.

This explanation will account for the difference on expenditure.

The garrison was reduced to its normal condition on the 13th February 1882.

The local defensive force is represented by the armed constabulary of the colony, maintained, so far as the settlement on the Gold Coast is concerned, at a cost of 26,659*l.* 7*s.* 7*d.*, exclusive of freight on supplies, during 1881.

This force is comprised of—

1 inspector general.
3 first class inspectors.
1 adjutant and musketry instructor
1 artillery inspector.
1 pay and quartermaster.
1 assistant quartermaster.
14 assistant inspectors.
2 native officers.
8 sergeant majors.
43 sergeants.
43 corporals.
1 drum major.
854 privates.
12 boys.
1 armour sergeant.
80 gunners.
4 clerks and interpreters.
3 priests.

There are occupied by the constabulary, the forts at Axim, Dixcove, and Secondee, Fort St. George at Elmina, the fort at Anamaboe, James and Ussher forts Accra, Quittah fort, the advanced posts at Mansu and Prahsue on the Cape Coast Prah road, with intermediate stations at the principal halting places for the protection of traders.

In support of legitimate trade and in the interests of the natives themselves, a camp has been established at Danoe, on the eastern border of the jurisdiction.

Public Works.

As the attention of the Government had to be mainly directed towards the defence of the Colony, and later to the re-establishment of friendly relations with Ashanti, which necessitated a temporary divergence of supervision that should otherwise have been engaged towards the completion of works authorised and necessary, and for which material had been already supplied, I feel only called upon to record that no works have been undertaken during the year, the routine of the department having been chiefly confined to the execution of current repairs.

Gold Coast.

The ordinary expenditure under the Public Works Department has been 10,687*l.* 8*d.* 3*s.*, exclusive of establishments, as compared with an approved provision in the estimates of 12,622*l.*

Of this outlay the sum of 6,241*l.* 7*s.* 9*d.* has been mainly expended in payment of material supplied through crown agents for new customs and treasury, Accra; hospital, Accra; officers' quarters, Adaffia; and for the reconstruction of Gothic House. These works progressed however only in 1881 for reasons already given.

There has been additionally an outlay in this department charged under the head "Special Expenses," explained previously.

Legislation.

The following Ordinances have been passed during the year by the Legislature of the Gold Coast Colony.

No. 1, of 31 January: An Ordinance to repeal an Ordinance, intituled an Ordinance to amend the Lagos Pilotage Ordinance, 1878, and to make provision for payment for the treatment afforded to hospital patients at Lagos in certain cases.

Informalities and indefiniteness necessitated this repeal and fresh legislation.

No. 2, of 31 January 1881: An Ordinance to amend an Ordinance intituled the "Quarantine Ordinance 1880."

It was considered that the Quarantine Ordinance, No. 7 of 1880, required amendment to enable it to be enforced effectually, and without unnecessary delay in Lagos.

No. 3, of 11 May 1881: An Ordinance to confer upon the Governor of the Gold Coast Colony the necessary power for the detention and deportation of certain political prisoners.

The necessity for this legislation arose to cover the deportation to and detention at Lagos of chief Asafu Ajay of Juabin, and the deportation to and detention at Elmina of King Tackie of Accra.

Civil Establishment.

The following appointments have been made during the year: Sir Samuel Rowe, K.C.M.G., to be Governor of the Gold Coast Colony, vice the late Mr. Herbert Taylor Ussher, C.M.G.

Mr. N. L. Bailey to be a Puisne Judge vice Mr. T. W. Jackson.

Mr. W. A. Cuscaden, formerly an assistant inspector of constabulary, to be civil commissioner of the Tarquah district.

Messrs J. H. Dillet, H. R. Hore, A. Allan, J. Hagan and W. J. P. Elliott, to be Supervisors of Customs.

Drs. T. Booth, R. J. Roulston, M. P. Duke, and D. Waldron to be assistant colonial surgeons.

There were two deaths on the Gold Coast among the European officers during the year, viz:—Mr. T. Woodcock, Queen's Advocate, on the 4th November, and Mr. P. J. Keeffe, foreman in the Public Works Department on temporary employment on the 27th January, 1881.

Assistant Inspector D A. Lysaght, died in England on the 24th May.

Assistant Inspector L. Wyatt of the constabulary, and Assistant Colonial Surgeon Ross, retired from the service on resignation.

Population, Marriages, Births, and Deaths.

The number of the population of the Gold Coast is wholly unascertained. Since the time of the imposition of the poll tax in 1852, an estimate of 400,000 as a population has been handed down as a legacy.

In 1881 when the census of Her Majesty's Empire was being taken generally, it was hoped that something more approximate in the shape of an estimate of the supposed population would have been secured. No action in the matter was taken. The assistance and co-operation of commissioners, heads of the different religious bodies, and of other influential persons have now been invited, and it is to be hoped that their labours will bring forth something.

It is very difficult to form an estimate as to the numbers of any native population, the statements of natives as to numbers being uncertain and quite unreliable.

Then again, natives are peculiarly suspicious, and would be disposed to be at once on their guard against supplying information which they would view as intended to be directed against themselves in the shape of taxation.

Return of Births.

Religious Denomination.	1880.	1881.	Increase.	Decrease.
Church of England - -	11	11	—	—
Wesleyan - - -	No information although called for.			
Basel Mission - - -	292	239	—	53
Roman Catholic - - -	Mission was only established in 1880.			
Bremen - - - -	No information although called for.			

Return of Marriages.

Religious Denomination.	1880.	1881.	Increase.	Decrease.
Church of England - -	—	1	1	—
Wesleyan - - - -	123	113	—	10
Basel Mission - - -	8	11	3	—
Roman Catholic - - -	Mission was only established in 1883.			
Bremen - - - -	No information although called for.			

Return of Deaths.

Religious Denomination.	1880.	1881.	Increase.	Decrease.
Church of England - -	17	18	1	—
Wesleyan - - - -	No information although called for.			
Basel Mission - - -	116	97	—	19
Roman Catholic - - -	Mission was only established in 1880.			
Bremen - - - -	No information although called for.			

No Act exists for the compulsory registration of births, marriages, and deaths. The Government have to look, with what results the foregoing statistics will show, to the superintendents of the different religious bodies for information, so far as each for his own flock will supply.

Churches, Livings, &c.

The following return of churches and clergy for 1881 is compiled from the information received from the different missions.

Religious Denominations.	No. of Clergy.	Churches and other Buildings used for Public Worship.		No. of Persons generally attending.	Remarks.
		Number.	Persons for whom there is accommodation.		
Church of England	2	2	900	400	Cape Coast and Accra.
Wesleyan -	13	47	—	9,600	
Basel Mission -	66	53	8,520	5,170	
Bremen - -	—	—	—	—	No statistics. Quittah District and inland therefrom.
Roman Catholic -	3	—	—	—	Elmina.

The labours of the Bremen mission are confined to the eastern border of the settlement, and inland from Quittah.

The Roman Catholic mission was established in Elmina, in 1880.

The difficulties experienced by it in the matter of securing a site for building purposes have militated no doubt against its progress.

Education.

There are two Government schools on the Gold Coast, one being at Cape Coast, and the other at Accra.

At the former the average attendance has been 208 boys and 60 girls, against 207 and 12 in 1880; while at the latter there has been an average attendance of 110 boys and 23 girls as compared with 70 and 20 in the previous year.

The cost of the Educational Department has been as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Cape Coast - - -	669	5	11
Accra - - - -	221	5	7

The work of education has been mainly conducted by missionary societies; and the following particulars, so far as they are concerned, are extracted from the Returns rendered by the superintendants.

Schools.

	No. of Schools.	Instructors.	Scholars on Rolls.	
Cape Coast:—				
1880 - -	1	7	219	
1881 - -	1	7	268	
Accra:—				
1880 - -	1	7	90	
1881 -	2	9	239	
Basel:—				
1880 - -	45	68	1,257	
1881 - -	47	79	1,285	
Wesleyan:—				
1880 - -	83	123	3,174	
1881 - -	84	106	3,057	
Catholic:—				
1880 - -	—	—	—	Not established.
1881 - -	1	3	150	Established May 1881 at Elmina.
Bremen:—				
1880 -	4	—	—	No information.
1881 - -	4	—	—	"

Hitherto, there has been an annual grant at the undermentioned rates given by the Government to the following missions in support of their labours for the promotion of education.

	£	s.	d.
Basel Mission - - -	150	0	0
Wesleyan Mission - -	200	0	0
Bremen Mission - -	75	0	0

GOLD COAST.

The majority of the Basel and Wesleyan schools are scattered over the interior of the Protectorate, the greater number of the latter being in the Western Province, while the Basel mission schools are entirely confined to the central province of the Gold Coast Colony.

The general question of education has been for some time under the consideration of the Government, and in May last an Ordinance for its promotion and assistance was passed by the local legislature, to which has been extended Her Majesty's gracious confirmation and approval.

Imports and Exports.

The following table shows the value of the imports to, and exports from, the Gold Coast, in the year 1881, as compared with 1880:—

COUNTRIES.	Imports therefrom.		Exports thereto.		Imports.		Exports.	
	1881.	1880.	1881.	1880.	Increase 1881.	Decrease. 1881.	Increase 1881.	Decrease 1881.
United Kingdom -	302,351	283,754	275,030	351,816	18,597	—	—	76,786
British Colonies -	2,255	1,049	248	530	1,206	—	—	282
Foreign Countries -	93,517	52,445	97,980	129,711	41,072	—	—	31,731
Total - -	398,123	337,248	373,258	482,057	60,875	—	—	108,799

The following figures give the value of the principal exports, with their direction, for the two past years:—

Articles.	Direction.	Quantity.		Value.	
		1880.	1881.	1880.	1881.
				£	£
Adansonia fibre -	United Kingdom -	4 pkgs.	—	7	—
Benniseed - -	„ -	5 cases	1 cwt. 24 lbs.	3	3
Beeswax - -	„ -	—	6 cwt.	—	1
„ - -	Germany - -	—	1 cwt. 0 qrs. 28 lbs.	—	14
Coffee - -	United Kingdom -	190 lbs.	144 lbs.	5	—
„ - -	Germany - -	10 pkgs.	—	32	—
Calabar beans -	United Kingdom -	20,690 lbs.	4,617 lbs.	2,363	112
„ -	Germany - -	—	560 lbs.	—	13
Camwood - -	United Kingdom -	23 bags	12 t. 7 c. 2 q. 8 lbs.	144	280
Cocoanuts - -	„ -	23,560	2,275 lbs.	132	4
„ - -	Germany - -	15,388	—	49	—
Colanuts - -	Lagos - -	—	53 pkgs.	—	143
„ - -	Bonny - -	—	3 „	—	15
Copra nuts - -	United Kingdom -	269,609	176,272	1,404	756
„ - -	Germany - -	21,101	—	110	—
„ - -	Sierra Leone -	835	—	4	—
„ - -	United Kingdom -	—	—	—	—
Cotton (Raw) -	„ -	3,864 lbs.	360 lbs.	30	1
Ginger - -	„ -	740 lbs.	2,161 lbs.	37	14
Gold Dust - -	„ -	9,129 ozs. 5 ac. 3 tk.	12,121 oz. 1 ac. 2 tk.	32,866	43,636
„ -	Assinee - -	—	446 ozs.	—	1,606
Gold Trinkets -	United Kingdom -	32 ozs. 2 ac. 3 tk.	78 ozs. 13 ac. 1 tk.	116	284
Ground nuts -	„ -	7 pkgs.	2,548 lbs.	5	31
Gum copal - -	„ -	12,304 lbs.	54,781 „	328	983
„ - -	United States -	115,424	170,240 „	1,606	3,047
„ - -	Germany - -	740	912 „	6	11

Articles.	Direction.	Quantity.		Value.	
		1880.	1881.	1880.	1881.
				£	£
Guinea grains -	Germany - -	—	149 lbs.	—	1
„ -	United Kingdom -	35 pkgs.	1,161 „	215	1,340
Ivory and Scrivel-loes - -	„ -	2,540 lbs.	5,343 „	539	1,119
„ „	Germany - -	12 lbs.	474 „	3	89
		tons cwt. qr. lbs.	tons cwt. qr. lbs.		
Palm kernels -	United Kingdom -	9,511 16 3 16	4,752 9 3 6	82,319	35,285
„ -	United States -	2 2 1 19	—	20	—
„ -	Germany - -	1,804 14 2 9	1,497 14 0 27	18,067	11,961
„ -	France - -	73 13 0 0	35 0 0 0	655	236
„ -	Holland - -	57 5 0 0	—	605	—
„ -	Assinee - -	—	3 11 1 20	—	26
Palm oil - -	United Kingdom -	2,709,426 galls.	2,037,583 galls.	202,832	155,618
„ - -	United States -	954,471 „	789,110 „	83,526	52,482
„ - -	Germany - -	255,697 „	280,914 „	20,715	22,462
„ - -	Portugal - -	655 „	—	41	—
„ - -	Assinee - -	—	130 „	—	10
Porcupine quills -	United Kingdom -	11 pkgs.	881 lbs.	34	96
Specie - -	„ -	102 „	169 cases	19,671	27,806
„ - -	United States -	—	4 „	—	1,942
Tiger or sweet nuts	United Kingdom -	—	133 lbs.	—	2
Tortoise shells -	„ -	—	210 „	—	14

Shipping.

The total number of sailing vessels entered on the Gold Coast for 1881 was 78, with a tonnage of 21,921, and crews which amounted to 805.

On the previous year the numbers under like heads were respectively 93, 23,442 and 935.

Of the vessels entered in 1881, 21 were British and 57 foreign: as against 51 and 42 in 1880.

Of the gross tonnage (21,921) 17,615 were foreign.

Of foreign shipping there were 34 American vessels with a tonnage of 12,703, and crews which were represented by 369.

In the previous year of the gross tonnage (23,442) 13,998 were foreign, of which 9,545 were of the United States of America, which were represented by 25 vessels.

The total number of steamers entered on the Gold Coast for 1881 was 144, with a tonnage of 133,695, and crews who totalled 5,407; of this number 143 with tonnage of 133,516, and crews of 5,385 hands, were from the United Kingdom, and one steamer with a tonnage of 179, and a crew of 22, German.

There cleared during the year 141 steamers with a tonnage of 132,104, and crews represented by 5,146; of this clearance 140, with a tonnage of 131,925 and 5,124 in crews, were the United Kingdom, and one steamer, German, with a tonnage of 179, and a crew of 22.

There entered in 1880 137 steamers with a tonnage of 147,628 and 5,444 hands in crews, of this number 136 with tonnage of 147,478 and total crew of 5,019 were from the United Kingdom. There cleared during the same year 139 with a tonnage of 146,688 and 5,723 hands in crews. Of these entries 136 steamers with a tonnage of 147,478 and 5,019 hands were from the United

GOLD COAST. Kingdom, the difference being German. Of these clearances the steamers with a tonnage of 146,538 and 5,698 hands were of 138 United Kingdom, the remaining one being German.

Gaols and Prisoners.

The total number of persons committed to province gaols in 1881 was 581 men, 45 women, and 11 juveniles. Gaols in the settlement on the Gold Coast number two, one being that of St. Iago at Elmina in the western province of the Colony, and the second being that of James Fort, Accra, in the entral province. The eastern province is represented by the settlement of Lagos, for which a separate Blue Book and report thereon are rendered.

There are however besides district prisons in charge of commissioners where offenders summarily convicted by them are confined. Short sentences do not always admit of committal to the province gaol. The labour of such prisoners is devoted to local public and sanitary work.

The expenditure on account of the gaol department for the year was as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Establishments - - -	1,182	2	3
Services - - -	1,860	8	5
Total - -	3,042	10	8

CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

The following particulars will admit of comparison between 1881 and 1880:—

Offences reported.

YEAR.	Total Number of Offences reported.	Offences at the Person.	Prædial Larceny (cattle te aling).	Offences against Pro-pertyother than Prædial Larceny.	Other Offences.
1881 - - -	1,831	527	19	338	944
1880 - - -	1,272	314	29	193	736

Apprehensions and Summonses, and Disposition of foregoing Cases.

YEAR.	Number discharged for want of prosecution or evidence.	Number of Cases dismissed on the merits.	Number of Persons summarily con-victed.	Number of Persons committed for trial in the Superior Courts.
1881 - -	24	304	1,381	122
1880 - -	26	161	950	135

Detail of Summary Convictions.

YEAR.	Assaults and other Offences against the Person.	Malicious Injuries to Property.	Prædial Larceny.	Other Offences against Property.	Offences against Acts relating to Social Economy of the Gold Coast.	Offences against Masters and Servants Acts.	Other Offences.	Total.
1881 - -	387	1	13	212	689	3	76	1,381
1880 - -	243	28	22	100	260	149	148	950

Punishments in connection with foregoing.

YEAR.	Fine.	Imprisonment in lieu of fine or surety.	Peremptory Imprisonment.	Whipping.	Bound over with or without Sureties, or other minor punishment.	Total.
1881 - -	463	515	371	—	32	1,381
1880 - -	311	183	384	—	12	950

Indictments and Informations in the Superior Courts.

YEAR.	Murder, other than wife and child murder.	Manslaughter.	Attempt at murder.	Rape.	Other offences against the Person.	Malicious injury to Property.	Murder of wife.	Robbery with violence.	Prædial Larceny.	Other offences against Property.	Miscellaneous Offences.	Total.
1881 -	10	3	3	3	16	6	—	3	3	36	39	122
1880 -	25	3	1	11	3	—	1	—	—	12	79	135

Statement as to ending of cases Tried in the Superior Courts.

YEAR.	Judgment for the Crown.	Judgment for the Prisoner.	Prisoner found insane.	Cases fell through for want of prosecution.	Total.	REMARKS.
1881 -	70	37	—	15	122	—
1880 -	96	31	—	8	135	—

GOLD COAST.

The number of offences, apprehensions, convictions, and acquittals for the last four years are afforded in the following comparative table:—

—	1878.	1879.	1880.	1881.	Remarks.
Apprehensions -	827	1,224	1,272	1,831	—
Convictions -	545	930	1,046	1,451	—
Acquittals - -	281	294	226	380	—

These statistics point to an increase in crime, which is to be attributed to the more extensive application and effective operation of the laws. I had hoped to have given in more detail the direction of crime, but the analysis on which these statistics have been based does not I find so admit.

Hospitals and Asylum.

I gather from the returns rendered by the medical department, which are most meagre, that during the year 1881 admissions were as follows:—75 patients into the Colonial Hospital, Cape Coast; 532 patients into the Elmina; 151 patients into the Accra; against 96, 407, 141 in the same order as to place in 1880.

In addition the professional services of the staff of the department have been taken advantage of by a large number of out-door patients.

Those admitted are chiefly members of the constabulary. The natives of the country have a great objection to being treated otherwise than as out-door patients.

The principal diseases treated during the year were ulcers, fever, guinea worm, abscesses, diseases of the respiratory, digestive, and urinary systems, eye, and cutaneous diseases.

There is no lunatic asylum on the Gold Coast. When safe custody of such patients is needed confinement in the gaols has to be resorted to.

The total cost of the medical department to the Government was 5,411*l.* 11*s.* 2*d.* exclusive of transport of supplies.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. (Signed) ALFRED MOLONEY,
The Earl of Kimberley, Administrator of the
&c. &c. Gold Coast Colony.

GAMBIA.

No. 10.

Governor A. E. HAVELOCK, C.M.G., to the Right Hon. the EARL OF KIMBERLEY.

Government House, Sierra Leone,
September 20, 1882.

(Signed) A. E. HAVELOCK,
Governor.

The Right Hon.
The Earl of Kimberley,
&c. &c.

Government House, Bathurst,
September 7, 1882.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you herewith three copies of the Blue Book of the Settlement for the year 1881, and to furnish the following remarks and comparative statements as a report thereon.

2. I regret that I have been unable to forward the Blue Book at an earlier date ; but the limited clerical staff at my disposal, and the difficulty of obtaining trustworthy temporary clerical assistance, will, I trust, be accepted as an excuse for the delay.

REVENUE and EXPENDITURE.

Revenue.

The receipts of the year 1881, inclusive of arrears of revenue of previous years, amounted to 24,151*l.* Deducting from this sum the arrears of previous years paid in 1881, viz. 19*l.*, and the parliamentary grant in aid for postal service, 1,200*l.* = 1,219*l.*, a sum of 22,932*l.* remains as the revenue proper of 1881, received during the year.

The arrears of revenue at the close of the year, and paid in 1882 amounted to 156*l.*

GAMBIA.

The revenue of 1881 was made up of the following contributions from the various sources from which the income of the Settlement was derived.

	£
Customs - - - -	19,256
Licenses - - - -	1,151
Rents, exclusive of land - -	806
Land revenue - - -	165
Fines, forfeitures, and fees of court -	307
Postage - - - -	76
Auction duty - - -	11
Incidental revenue, such as miscellaneous receipts, reimbursements in aid, &c. - - - -	1,160
Total - - -	22,932
The revenue of 1880 (exclusive of arrears) amounted to -	23,341
	409

so that the revenues of the two years 1880 and 1881 differed by the sum of 409*l.*, there being a decrease of that amount in the revenue of the latter year as compared with the preceding one.

The following comparative table shows the difference between the sums yielded in 1880 and in 1881 by the several sources of revenue.

Source of Revenue.	Revenue. 1880.	Revenue. 1881.	Increase in 1881.	Decrease in 1881.
Customs :	£	£	£	£
Import duties, specific :				
Wine - - -	1,464	1,445	—	19
Spirits - - -	2,626	2,795	169	—
Tobacco - - -	1,470	1,522	52	—
Sugar - - -	767	468	—	299
Cola nuts - - -	1,721	1,813	92	—
Guns - - - -	1,638	703	—	935
Gunpowder - - -	208	150	—	58
Palm wine - - -	502	382	—	120
Bricks - - -	38	48	10	—
Ad-valorem duties - -	2,083	1,442	—	641
Export duties :				
Ground nuts - -	4,608	5,608	1,000	—
Hides - - -	157	127	—	30
Tonnage, Quarantine, and Pilotage dues - -	2,746	2,583	—	163
Warehouse rent - -	178	170	—	8
Total Customs -	20,206	19,256	1,323	2,273
Licenses - - - -	1,071	1,151	80	—
Rent and land revenue - -	955	971	16	—

Source of Revenue.	Revenue 1880.	Revenue 1881.	Increase in 1881.	Decrease in 1881.
	£	£	£	£
Fines, forfeitures, and fees of court - - - -	311	307	—	4
Postage - - - -	67	76	9	—
Auction duty - - -	29	11	—	18
Incidental revenue, such as miscellaneous receipts, reimbursements in aid, &c. -	702	1,160	458	—
Total Revenue - -	23,341	22,932	1,886	2,295
				1,886
Decrease in 1881 -	- -	- -	- -	409

It will thus be seen that certain items of revenue show a combined increase in 1881 of 1,886*l.*, while others exhibit a falling off to the amount of 2,295*l.*, resulting in a balance of decrease of 409*l.*, which may be regarded as but a trifling difference between the revenues of the two years under comparison.

The principal items of increase accrued from the duties on spirits (169*l.*), ground nuts (1,000*l.*), and from incidental revenue (458*l.*).

The difference between the sums yielded by the impost on ground nuts in 1880 and 1881 arose from the meagreness of the ground nut crop of 1880, which crop was considerably below the average. The crop here spoken of as that of 1880 was, in reality, the ingathering of 1879, but as the greater portion was exported in 1880 I have, for revenual comparison, regarded it as the produce of the latter year.

The increase in incidental revenue was contributed by the interest of surplus funds invested.

The principal item of decrease occurred in the case of the revenue received from the duties on sugar (299*l.*), guns (935*l.*), palm wine (120*l.*), and from ad valorem duty (641*l.*); and tonnage, quarantine, and pilotage dues (163*l.*).

The apparent falling off in sugar appears to have chiefly arisen from the circumstance that a considerable quantity of that article remained in stock from the preceding year, combined with the fact that the import of sugar in 1880 was much over the average.

The revenue derived from the duty on guns exhibits a very marked decrease; but this, I think, is more to be ascribed to the large import of guns in 1880 than to any falling off in the trade in those articles. Palm wine shows a decrease of 120*l.*, which falling off was chiefly caused by the return to their own country of many of the Jolahs who resided in British Combo, and to whom the palm wine industry was almost entirely confined.

The revenue from ad valorem duty fell off by 641*l.*, a decrease which I believe was chiefly due to a considerable quantity of the large imports of 1880 remaining in stock at the end of that year, thereby reducing the imports of 1881.

GAMBIA.

Tonnage, quarantine, and pilotage dues show a decrease of 163*l.*, and this, I think, is to be attributed to the circumstance that the mail steamers (which vessels pay no dues) are gradually supplanting sailing vessels in the carrying trade of the Settlement as regards imports.

Expenditure.

	£	*s.*	*d.*
The payments made in 1881, exclusive of payment of arrears of 1880 amounted to -	20,695	0	0
In this sum is included - - -	2,548	0	0
expense of Upper Gambia expedition, which, forming an unusual expenditure, should, in a comparative statement, be eliminated, and therefore deducting it we get - - -	18,147	0	0
Add to this arrears due at close of year -	1,693	0	0
and we get - - - - -	19,840	0	0
as the expenditure proper appertaining to 1881.			
The expenditure of 1880, (exclusive of expenses connected with the Upper Gambia expedition and of payment of mail subsidy) amounted to -	18,361	0	0
	1,479	0	0

and therefore the expenditure of 1881 exceeded that of the preceding year by 1,479*l.*; which excess was caused by an addition of 100*l.* to the salary of the collector and treasurer, by increased expenditure under the head of rent, and on public works and buildings, and by the payment by the Settlement of the mail subsidy which, in previous years, had been provided by the Imperial Government as a grant in aid; and which I have therefore included as an item of real expenditure appertaining to the year 1881.

The financial position of the Settlement at the close of 1881 was as follows :—

Assets.

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Balance in Colonial chest - - -	5,149	14	1
Balance in Crown Agent's hands - -	1,004	13	4
Surplus funds invested - - -	14,400	0	0
Advances due to the Settlement - -	255	6	1
Arrears of revenue due in the Settlement -	156	14	8
Remittance in transit to Crown Agents -	2,075	6	3
Amount due from Government of South Australia - - - -	113	11	8
Amount due from Government of Victoria -	45	0	10
Amount due from Dr. Browning on account of over-payment of salary advanced to him for his services Upper Gambia expedition - -	40	0	0
Total - - -	23,240	6	11

Liabilities.

	£	s.	d.
Due for postal service - - -	1,200	0	0
„ on account of deposits - - -	1,721	11	0
„ to Sierra Leone Government - -	2,037	17	5
„ in the Settlement on account of salaries, &c. - - - -	79	15	0
„ by Crown agents on account of salaries, pensions, &c. - - -	413	16	8
	5,453	0	1
Excess of assets over liabilities - -	17,787	6	10

Local Revenues.

The only local revenue is one arising from a "local rate" of three per cent. on all houses of an annual value exceeding 5*l.*

This revenue is raised for the purpose of effecting local improvements, such as the repair of roads and streets, and the construction and repair of drains and bridges in the town of Bathurst.

The amount collected during 1881 was 262*l.*, and that expended 354*l.*, a portion of which latter sum was drawn from the balance of 335*l.* which remained over at the end of 1880. At the close of 1881 there was a balance in favour of "local rates" of 244*l.*

Public Debt.

There is no public debt. The Settlement is now self supporting, and receives no aid from the Imperial Government.

Imports.

	£	s.	d.
The value of the imports of 1881, exclusive of specie, amounted to - - - -	142,589	0	0
That of the imports of 1880, also exclusive of specie, was - - - - -	169,691	0	0
and therefore a falling off to the amount of -	27,102	0	0

occurred in the imports of 1881 as compared with those of the previous year.

	£	s.	d.
The amount of specie imported in 1881 was -	18,039	0	0
and in the previous year - - -	21,404	0	0
Showing a decrease in 1881 of - -	3,365	0	0

The falling off in the imports of 1881 as compared with the few previous years arose from several causes, but chiefly from the circumstance, as stated by the merchants, that at the price they

GAMBIA.

bought ground nuts at the Gambia during 1879 and 1880 they could not sell them in Europe at a fair or remunerative profit; and as the native would not lower his terms or yield in any way trade was somewhat contracted, and consequently there occurred a diminution in the imports.

The following table shows the value, and in several cases the quantity, of all the imports, the value of which amounted to 500*l.* or over, for the years 1880 and 1881 respectively, and also the average for the quinquennial period 1876–80.

		Average for period 1876–80. Five Years.	1880.	1881.
Ale and porter	Gallons	7,754	11,021	8,134
	Value	£1,312	1,766	1,427
Amber and coral	"	£674	1,164	1,257
Anchors and chains	"	£299	678	86
Bags, empty	"	£1,251	1,122	1,205
Beads	"	£567	968	932
Bread and biscuits	"	£1,149	1,877	937
Bricks and tiles	"	£405	531	763
Boats	No.	12	24	11
	Value	£405	843	113
Cotton goods	"	£30,569	37,797	28,039
Candles	"	£779	986	801
Canvas	"	£367	550	368
Cordage	"	£684	559	455
Cutlasses and swords	"	£686	1,179	527
Cola nuts	Quantity	lbs.582,330	578,365	609,047
	Value	£22,144	27,390	29,122
Flour	Barrels	578	592	507
	Value	£876	891	807
Furniture	"	£336	589	276
Guns and pistols	No.	6,078	6,486	4,404
	Value	£3,788	3,772	2,273
Gunpowder	Barrels	895	606	721
	Value	£1,812	969	1,582
Hardware	"	£2,556	2,754	1,356
Haberdashery	"	£2,969	4,800	4,474
Iron bars	"	£782	734	275
Leather, manufactured	"	£438	557	330
Lumber and planks	"	£1,724	1,698	1,171
Oil, edible	"	£690	1,628	1,220
Oil, lamp	"	£685	329	286
Paint oil, paint, and turpentine	"	£625	883	425
Provisions	"	£1,895	2,808	2,326
Rice	Tons	1,576	2,207	1,115
	Value	£15,836	24,960	12,817
Soap	"	£1,088	1,208	1,037
Salt	Tons	1,331	1,444	1,604
	Value	£748	734	1,205
Spirits—				
Absinthe	Quantity	Galls. 3,799	10,449	1,241
	Value	£767	1,715	329
Brandy	Quantity	Galls. 838	762	547
	Value	£376	847	430
Gin	Quantity	Galls. 4,618	3,638	3,664
	Value	£827	547	615
Rum	Quantity	Galls.44,113	38,759	50,535
	Value	£5,284	10,131	4,800
Whisky	Quantity	Galls. 56	117	131
	Value	£14	31	27

		Average for period 1876–80. Five Years.	1880.	1881.
Spirits—				
Liqueur	Quantity	Galls. 986	1,598	624
	Value	£358	523	212
Stationery	„	£503	702	511
Sugar	Quantity	lbs. 117,127	182,117	109,036
	Value	£1,803	2,881	1,634
Tobacco	Quantity	lbs. 346,554	322,297	474,117
	Value	£11,233	9,578	7,115
Unenumerated goods	„	£624	514	947
Wearing apparel	„	1,794	1,812	943
Wine	Quantity	Galls.22,269	—	—
	Value	£2,767	3,790	3,157
Woollen Goods	„	£253	387	596

Exports.

	£
The value of the total exports from the settlement in 1881, exclusive of specie, amounted to	138,931
That of the exports in 1880 (also exclusive of specie) was	134,651
And thus there was an increase in 1881 of	4,280

The subjoined table exhibits a comparative statement for the years 1880 and 1881 of the value of the exports proper of the Gambia for those years :—

	1880.	1881.
	£	£
Cotton	53	55
Ground nuts	110,594	118,712
Hides	3,760	3,055
Ivory	62	41
Pagns (country cloths)	467	79
Palm kernels	2,134	873
Wax	4,431	2,439
	121,501	125,254
	—	121,501
Increase in 1881	—	3,753

This increase of 3,753*l.* was entirely yielded by ground nuts, the export of which in 1881 exceeded in value that of 1880 by 8,118*l.*

In all the other articles of export there was a falling off.

The following is a comparative statement of the values and quantities of the principal export proper of the Gambia during

the years 1880 and 1881, and of the average for the quinquennial period 1876–1880 :—

Articles.		Average for the period 1876–80. 5 years.	1880.	1881.
Cotton - -	Value	£104	53	55
Ground nuts - -	Tons	17,327	13,824	16,959
	Value	£133,272	110,594	15,273
Hides - -	No.	20,280	18,798	15,273
	Value	£4,056	3,760	3,055
Ivory - - -	„	£106	69	41
Pagns (country cloths)	„	£495	467	79
Palm kernels -	„	£963	2,134	873
Wax - - -	Tons	46	—	—
	Value	£5,469	4,431	2,439

From the above table it will be seen that in 1881 the export of hides, pagns, palm kernels, and wax fell off considerably as compared with the exports of these articles in 1880, and with the average for the five years 1876–80, the most notable decrease occurring in the case of wax, the export of which declines from year to year.

The decrease in the export of the foregoing enumerated articles is chiefly due to the fact that as times goes on the natives devote themselves more and more to the cultivation of the staple production of the Gambia, viz., ground nuts.

Shipping.

Entered during the Year.	Number.	With Cargo.	In Ballast.	Tons.	
				With Cargo.	In Ballast.
Sailing vessels - - -	159	116	43	15,200	4,866
Steam vessels - - -	55	48	7	45,128	1,944
Total entered - -	214	164	50	60,328	6,810

Cleared during the Year.	Number.	With Cargo.	In Ballast.	Tons.	
				With Cargo.	In Ballast.
Sailing vessels - - -	180	123	47	20,113	794
Steam vessels - - -	51	49	2	46,726	50
Total cleared - -	231	172	49	66,839	844

Militia.

There is a small militia force in the Settlement consisting of the Combo militia and McCarthy's Island militia. Neither of these corps were called out for training during the year.

Public Works.

The usual repairs of public buildings were carried out, and a new hospital bungalow, costing 170*l.*, was built.

The principal repairs were carried out at the following buildings:—Government House, 123*l.*; Police barracks, 94*l.*; Military hospital, 97*l.*; Bathurst gaol, 81*l.*; the Colonial hospital, 155*l.*; and at McCarthy's Island a new roof, 84*l.*, was put on the manager's quarters.

Legislation.

Five Ordinances were passed during the year, but one of them, viz., No. 3 (Customs Ordinance) did not receive Her Majesty's confirmation and allowance.

No. 1 made further provision for promoting the Public Health of Bathurst.

No. 2 was a Census Ordinance

No. 3 was a Customs Management and Regulation Ordinance, and assimilated in a great measure the Customs laws of the Gambia to those of Sierra Leone.

Owing to alterations and amendments which were suggested in England after this Ordinance had been passed, it was not presented for Her Majesty's confirmation, but was returned to the Gambia for the further consideration of the Legislative Council.

No. 4 was the Supplementary Supply Ordinance for the year 1880.

No. 5 was the Appropriation or Supply Ordinance for the year 1882.

Savings Banks, Friendly Societies, &c.

No savings bank exists in the Settlement, although such an institution would be a benefit to the community. Should this Government ever have a larger staff of officials than it has had for some years past, the establishment of a Government savings bank will be brought within the range of feasibility; although, even then, so far as I can see at present, difficulties will lie in the way of allowing interest on the sums invested. To make this latter statement clear it is needful for me to explain that the remittance of specie to England costs, between freight and insurance, about one and a half per cent., and that the expedient of remitting cash by means of bills of exchange is limited in its operation, by reason of the limited number of bills obtainable.

Friendly Societies.

Several of these exist in Bathurst. They partake more of the nature of purely burial societies than of those associations which have for their object the helping of members in times of sickness or other adversity, in addition to the defraying of burial expenses in case of death.

Ecclesiastical.

Christianity is represented in this Settlement by the existence of three of its Churches, viz., the Episcopalian, Wesleyan Methodist, and Roman Catholic.

The first is almost entirely maintained at the public expense; the others are supported by missionary societies, and receive no state aid, except that given in support of their schools.

A large number of the inhabitants of the Settlement profess the Mohammedan faith, and the religion of Islamism is steadily making its way throughout the adjacent countries, many of which are now almost entirely Mohammedan in belief.

The following table, compiled from the census taken on the 4th April 1881, shows the number of the inhabitants professing respectively Christianity and Islamism, and the number of those whose vague and shadowy belief in the existence of a Supreme Being has never been formulated into a faith or creed, and who are denominated pagans or heathens.

Religion.	Number.
Episcopalian	819
Presbyterian	10
Wesleyan	2,012
Roman Catholic	779
Other Christian denominations	5
Mohammedan	5,300
Pagan	5,025
Total	14,150

Education.

During 1881 there were nine schools in the Settlement, viz., one belonging to the Established Church, six to the Wesleyan Mission, and two to the Roman Catholic Mission. These schools were distributed as follows:—One Protestant, two Wesleyan, and two Roman Catholic at Bathurst; two Wesleyan in British Combo, one Wesleyan at Barra, and one at McCarthy's Island.

The total number of school children in 1881 was 809, and in the previous year 738, so that in 1881 there was an increase of 71 in the number of children attending school.

The following table exhibits the number of children attending the different schools during the years 1880 and 1881 respectively, and the average number for the quinquennial period 1876–80.

—	Average number of Scholars for period 1876–80.				1880.				1881.			
	No. of Schools.	Males.	Females.	Total.	No. of Schools.	Males.	Females.	Total.	No. of Schools.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Established Ch., Bathurst -	1	55	49	104	1	49	28	77	1	62	80	142
Wesleyan, Bathurst - -	2	141	105	246	1	158	124	282	2	145	97	242
Wesleyan, British Combo - -	2	27	23	50	3	27	27	54	2	42	40	82
Wesleyan, Barra	1	17	14	31	1	23	10	32	1	19	11	30
,, McCarthy's Island -	1	30	20	50	1	42	21	63	1	42	21	63
Roman Catholic, Bathurst -	2	126	132	258	2	100	130	230	2	120	130	250
Total -	9	396	343	739	9	398	340	430	9	377	379	809

There are no industrial schools in the Settlement, but instruction in cutting out, and needlework is given in the Roman Catholic Mission female school.

A grant of 100*l.* a year in aid of education was, as usual, given by the Government to each of the three Christian churches in the Settlement, and in addition a sum of 57*l.* 12*s.* was voted for salaries of the schoolmasters of the Church of England and Wesleyan schools at Cape St. Mary. Of this latter sum, however, only 28*l.* 16*s.* were expended, as the Church of England school was in abeyance during the year owing to the want of a schoolmaster.

Agriculture.

The cultivation of the ground nut is the staple husbandry work of the Settlement and of the surrounding territories. Corn, that is, a specie of millet locally called kous, and rice are to some extent grown, but in the Settlement and territories adjoining the river, the food supply cultivated is not nearly sufficient for the wants of the people, and consequently large quantities of rice are annually imported. This is not a quite satisfactory state of things, as, should the import of rice be at any time suspended for a few months, a famine would arise in the land.

The ingathering of 1881 as regards ground nuts was larger than usual, and the nut itself was of better quality than it had been for the two previous years.

Manufactures, Mines, Fisheries, &c.

The hand weaving of cotton into native cloth called bandy cloth is the only manufacturing industry in the country. These

GAMBIA.

bandy cloths, which are strips about four inches wide and a couple of yards long, are sewn together to form an oblong piece which is known as a pagn. These pagns are very durable, and are much used for night clothing, the finer and better description being appropriated by the women for ordinary apparel.

Bandy cloths form a medium of barter and exchange, and large quantities annually pass into the hands of the merchants and traders, and back again into the possession of the native.

Mines.

None exist in the Settlement, nor in the Gambia district.

Fisheries.

The Bathurst market is fairly supplied with fish, which is caught in the river close to and within a few miles of the town. There is no deep sea fishing whatever.

Gaols and Prisoners.

The gaol at Bathurst is the common gaol of the Settlement. There is a small prison at Cape St. Mary (British Combo) and one at McCarthy's island. At these latter there is no proper prison staff, the prisoners being under the surveillance of police constables.

The "mixed system" is that which obtains in the prisons of the Settlement.

The prison discipline is entirely, or almost entirely, deterrent.

The following is a comparative statement showing the number committed to penal imprisonment, the daily average number of prisoners, the number of deaths, and the per centage of deaths of the daily average number in prison for the years 1880 and 1881 respectively, and the average for the period 1876–1880.

—	Average for the period 1876–80.	1880.	1881.
Committed to penal imprisonment -	123	110	105
Daily average number of prisoners -	36	45	47
Number of deaths - - -	54	4	6
Percentage of deaths of daily average number of prisoners - - -	15	8·9	12·8

Criminal Statistics.

The number of convictions, summary and in the superior courts, during the year 1881 was 197. The number for the previous year was 255, and therefore there was a decrease of 58 in the number of convictions in 1881 as compared with 1880.

The subjoined table shows the average number of convictions for the quinquennial period 1876–80, and the number of convictions during the years 1880 and 1881 respectively.

—	Average for the period 1876–80.	1880.	1881.
Number of convictions:—			
Summary - - - -	226	229	182
In superior courts - - -	25	26	15
Total - - -	251	255	197

Population.

The result of the census taken on the 4th April 1881 shows that the population of the Settlement as a whole has been, as regards numbers, almost stationary since the census of 1871, the total population in the latter named year amounting to 14,190, and in 1881 to 14,150, there being therefore a decrease of 40 in the population during the last ten years.

This circumstance is anything but encouraging to those who look upon a rapidly increasing population as one of the most potent agents in the civilization and moral and social advancement of the native, and I fear the story told by the census of 1881 as regards the Settlement would, in its broad outlines, be applicable to the greater portion of the surrounding territories.

The following table shows the movement of the population in the ten years ending 4th April 1881.

—	1871.			1881.			Increase.			Decrease.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Bathurst - -	2,139	2,452	4,591	2,790	3,348	6,138	651	896	1,547	—	—	—
British Combo -	2,319	2,100	2,100	1,632	1,425	3,057	—	—	—	687	675	1,362
Ceded Mile (Barra) -	2,201	1,716	3,917	2,289	1,758	4,047	88	42	130	—	—	—
McCarthy's Island - -	647	616	1,263	504	404	908	—	—	—	143	212	355
Total	7,306	6,884	14,190	7,215	6,935	14,150	739	938	1,677	830	887	1,717
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,677

Increase (Bathurst and Ceded Mile) - - - -	1,677
Decrease (British Combo and McCarthy's Island) - -	1,717
Decrease in total population of the Settlement - - -	40

Concluding Remarks.

The trade of 1881 was of a fair average description, although towards the latter end of the year there was some falling off in consequence of a disagreement between the merchants and natives with respect to the capacity of the measure to be taken as the "trade bushel" for measuring ground nuts, which want of agreement amounted in reality to a dispute as to the price to be paid by the merchants for the nuts.

The war in Baddiboo, which had for some years divided the country into two hostile camps, began to languish in 1881, so far as active operations were concerned; and, although no actual *rapprochement* took place between the rival chiefs themselves, a spirit of discontent with the unsettled and uncertain state of things began to manifest itself amongst their adherents, a circumstance which this Government did not fail to impress upon the chiefs as an additional argument in favour of peace to those which had been already so often and so earnestly employed in the same direction.

I may here anticipate somewhat by stating that in the present year (1882) the civil war in Baddiboo came to an end, and the country has been relieved from the incubus which encumbered and burdened it for the last five years.

The epidemic of small pox which broke out at Bathurst towards the close of 1880 continued in activity during the early part of 1881, but it gradually decreased as the year advanced, and in August the town was happily freed from its presence.

In July an epidemic of yellow fever of a virulent type again visited the neighbouring French Settlements, and wrought much havoc amongst the Europeans resident therein. The disease reappeared at first at the town of St. Louis in Senegal, from whence it spread to Goree and Dakar. The epidemic raged unabated for several months, and did not entirely disappear until the early part of January 1882. At the same time that yellow fever was committing its deplorable ravages amongst the European residents, an epidemic of small pox, and one of what the French doctors called cholorine, attacked the native population, and destroyed many lives.

During the existence of these epidemics in the adjacent French Settlements strict quarantine precautions were observed at Bathurst, and the Settlement was providentially preserved from invasion by these diseases.

The number of deaths registered in Bathurst during the year 1881 was 460, which is in the proportion of 7·5 per cent. of the population, or 75 per 1,000 per annum. Of these 460 deaths, 199 were of children under five years of age, which is at the rate of 32 per 1,000 of the total population of the town.

An expedition (the Upper Gambia expedition) set out from Bathurst on the 22nd January 1881, and proceeding to the Upper

river (Gambia), and from thence to Timbo, the capital of the Futa Jallon country, returned to Bathurst viâ Sierra Leone, in the early part of May. Treaties of friendship and commerce were made with several chiefs and with the king of Futa Jallon, but the difficulties of transport, the habits of the natives, and the paucity of population in the countries through which the expedition travelled, render it improbable that any great increase of trade with those countries will take place for at least several generations to come.

I have, &c.
(Signed) V. SKIPTON GOULDSBURY,
Administrator.

His Excellency
The Governor-in-Chief,
&c. &c.
Sierra Leone.

LAGOS.

No. 11.

Administrator MOLONEY, C.M.G., to the Right Hon. the EARL OF KIMBERLEY.

Christiansborg Castle,
Accra, September 28, 1882.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit the Blue Book of the settlement of Lagos of the Gold Coast Colony for 1881, together with the report thereon by Mr. Simpson, the Acting Administrator.

I have, &c.
(Signed) ALFRED MOLONEY,
Administrator of the Gold Coast Colony.

The Right Hon.
The Earl of Kimberley,
&c. &c.

Government House, Lagos,
September 14, 1882.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith three copies of the Blue Book for 1881, together with my report thereon.

Taxes, Duties, and Fees.

2. In these there has been no change.

Revenue and Expenditure.

3. The receipts for 1881 were 42,421*l.* 12*s.* 8*d.*, and the expenditure 45,461*l.* 13*s.* 10*d.*, showing an increase of expenditure over receipts of 3,040*l.* 1*s.* 2*d.*

LAGOS.

4. The revenue for 1881, is less than the revenue of 1880 by 5,565*l.* 8*s.* 5*d.*, and the expenditure has decreased by 10,014*l.* 0*s.* 4*d.*

5. The decrease in the revenue is due in great measure to the inter-tribal warfare, and which is still going on.

6. The actual revenue for the past five years has been

	£
1877 - - - -	59,390
1878 - - - -	49,359
1879 - - - -	54,940
1880 - - - -	47,987
1881 - - - -	42,422

7. The following is a comparative statement of the revenue for the past two years, namely :—

Heads of Receipts.	1880.	1881.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ *s.* *d.*	£ *s.* *d.*	£ *s.* *d.*	£ *s.* *d.*
Customs - -	40,902 17 8	35,946 18 6	—	4,955 19 2
Sale of Government property	116 0 11	83 15 4	—	32 5 7
Land sales -	12 15 0	13 10 0	0 15 0	—
Land revenue -	10 10 0	12 0 0	1 10 0	—
Postage - -	294 0 8	312 7 10	18 7 2	—
Rent, exclusive of lands -	214 11 3	208 11 4	—	5 19 11
Licenses - -	1,814 0 0	1,707 10 0	—	106 10 0
Fees of office -	439 11 9	413 3 6	—	26 8 3
Fines, forfeitures, and fees of court -	860 6 8	790 14 7	—	69 12 1
Miscellaneous receipts -	2,505 6 4	2,157 3 9	—	348 2 7
Reimbursement, &c. - -	770 6 3	763 7 10	—	6 18 5
Government vessels - -	43 4 7	—	—	43 4 7
Special receipts	3 10 0	12 10 0	9 0 0	—
Surcharges recovered -	—	—	—	—
Total -	47,987 1 1	42,421 12 8	29 12 2	5,595 0 7

8. The above differences may be thus briefly explained—

"Customs." Decrease is due to the unsettled state of the interior, the Ibadans and Ijesas being still at war, the surrounding tribes being more or less concerned therein; the other items of decrease being governed by the same causes.

9. Below is a table shewing the expenditure of the last two years.

Heads of Expenditure.	1880.	1881.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Salaries fixed -	22,614 11 0	20,861 2 5	—	1,753 8 7
Do. pro. and tem. - -	4,407 0 2	4,002 5 10	—	404 14 4
Allowances -	1,273 17 7	1,251 14 0	—	22 3 7
Contingencies -	61 0 3	25 7 2	—	35 13 1
Services exclusive of Establishment.				
Administrator -	62 19 11	312 4 6	249 4 7	—
Customs and treasury -	81 2 9	17 17 0	—	63 5 9
Printing - -	—	121 19 2	121 19 2	—
Public works -	4,221 14 0	4,653 1 2	431 7 2	—
Harbour master	307 10 10	382 9 1	74 18 3	—
Government vessels - -	1,391 12 7	1,190 10 11	—	201 1 8
Post Office -	378 11 0	307 18 6	—	70 12 6
Medical - -	1,341 19 8	1,209 1 11	—	132 17 9
Constabulary -	1,789 18 11	1,160 6 2	—	629 12 9
Gaol -	1,437 0 6	1,155 2 11	—	281 17 7
Judicial - -	223 2 7	43 8 6	—	179 15 1
Pensions - -	1,318 6 8	1,362 10 0	44 3 4	—
Charitable allowances - -	10 0 0	30 5 6	20 5 6	—
Ecclesiastical -	172 6 2	186 5 3	13 19 1	—
Education -	643 10 8	638 13 7	—	4 17 1
Rent - -	31 18 9	55 16 8	23 17 11	—
Transport -	1,841 18 5	1,222 3 3	—	619 15 2
Interest - -	82 14 10	159 8 5	76 13 7	—
Miscellaneous -	7,258 16 2	2,487 0 3	—	4,771 15 11
Aborigines -	1,481 0 10	1,310 6 10	—	170 14 0
Drawbacks -	3,042 18 11	1,314 14 10	—	1,728 4 1
Total -	55,475 14 2	45,461 13 10	1,056 8 7	11,070 8 11

10. The increases and decreases are accounted for as follows, namely:—

The decrease under Establishment is due to the salaries of several officers being paid by the Crown Agents and inadvertently charged to the Gold Coast, instead of Lagos, and adjusted this year.

The increase under the head of "Administrators Department" is due to the importation of new articles of furniture for Government house.

The stock of type and printing materials in the "printing department" was inadequate to the requirements in 1881; hence the importation of new type, &c., which has caused the increase.

The construction of new bridges over Isale Gangan and Idumagbo creeks, a dwarf wall around the Colonial Hospital, and of the fish and meat markets are the causes of increase under "Public Works."

LAGOS.

The increase under "Harbour Master's Department" is due to the importation of two large buoys with anchors and chain cables for marking the channel across the bar.

"Government Vessels." Here the consumption of fuel being less than in the previous year, causes a decrease.

Under head of "Post Office," the cost of conveyance of mails to and from the roadstead was reduced by 70*l.*, hence decrease.

The decrease in the number of patients treated in the Colonial Hospital in 1881, as compared with 1880, would account for this difference.

The quantity of ammunition and small arms imported in 1880 rendered unnecessary the importation of more in 1881, hence the decrease under "Constabulary Department."

The decrease under the head of "Gaols," is due in part to the smaller number of prisoners in 1881.

The importance of the suits before the Courts in 1880, in the matter of slave dealing up the Niger, &c., caused the vote for expenses of witnesses to swell to greater dimensions than usual in 1880.

The increase under "Pensions, &c." was due to Mr. King Examining Officer Customs Department having been granted a gratuity of 50*l.* by the Secretary of State on his retirement.

That under this head "Charitable Allowances" was caused by the greater demands for relief amongst the poor.

"Ecclesiastical." Arrears of the bishop's salary due in 1880, but paid in 1881, accounts for this increase.

The rent for Gbologun House for the half year ended 31st December, 1880, was paid in the year under review, which accounts for this increase.

"Transport." The movements of officers were less than usual this year, thus causing a decrease under this head.

The decrease under "Miscellaneous Services' is due to the following payments made in 1880, namely:—

	£
Purchase of house and furniture from Dr. Simpson - - -	3, 34
Loss on dollars and expense of importing new coins - - -	2,543

The only payments of similar characters, in 1881, were the purchase of Messrs. Banner Brothers property at Leckie for 1,000*l.* and cost of census 300*l.*

"Aborigines." There were fewer presents given to native chiefs, therefore a decrease under this head in 1881. The vote for "Drawbacks" fluctuates, and is governed by the state of trade; the shipments of duty paid goods in 1881 not reaching those of 1880.

Public Debt.

11. There is no public debt beyond amounts due intestate estates, &c., temporarily deposited in the chest, amounting to 715*l.* 13*s.* 11*d.* The Settlement has a sum of 20,000*l.*, invested in England, in the Three per cent. consols.

Military Expenditure.

12. The defence of the Colony is undertaken by the Gold Coast Constabulary, which consists of—

Houssas.

Three assistant inspectors, 1 superintendent and paymaster, 1 native officer, 2 serjeant majors, 9 serjeants, 10 corporals, 143 privates.

Drummers.

One drum-major, 2 corporals, 10 privates.

Gunners.

One serjeant major, 1 serjeant, 2 corporals, 16 privates, Total 202.

Civil Police.

One sub-intendent, 1 serjeant major, 3 serjeants, 6 corporals, 124 privates. Total 135.

13. The force is armed with breach-loading Sniders, and the gunners have Colt's revolvers.

14. There are also three 7-pounder M.L.R. guns, rocket troughs, and a Gatling gun together with two more 7-pounder M.L.R. guns on board Her Majesty's Colonial steamer "Gertrude."

15. The upkeep of the defensive land force in 1881 amounted to 9,187*l.* 12*s.* 8*d.*, which includes 164*l.* 5*s.* 0*d.*, for six detectives.

Public Works.

16. The total expenditure under the head of Public Works was 4,653*l.* 1*s.* 2*d.*, of which 202*l.* 4*s.* 8*d.* was for sanitation, 258*l.* 9*s.* for lighting streets, and 16*l.* 7*s.* 9*d.* for illuminating town clock. Besides the ordinary repairs to public buildings, roads, &c., the following works commenced in 1880 were continued, namely:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Dwarf wall around Colonial Hospital	477	3	4
Embankment of the Marina - -	583	3	5
Completion of slaughter house and meat market - - -	265	0	0
Police Station - - -	98	15	7
Materials for 5 Cowrie bridge -	132	9	6
Fish market - - -	111	12	3
Isale Gangan bridge - - -	156	2	5

The foregoing figures are exclusive of the salaries, allowances, and contingencies of the Department.

Legislation.

17. The Ordinances passed by the Gold Coast Colony affecting Lagos were:—

No. 1.—"An Ordinance to amend the Lagos Pilotage and "Harbour Ordinance, 1878, and to make provision for payment "for treatment afforded to hospital patients at Lagos in certain cases."

"

LAGOS.

No. 2.—"An Ordinance to amend an Ordinance intituled the "Quarantine Ordinance 1880."

No. 3.—"An Ordinance to confer upon the Governor of the "Gold Coast Colony the necessary powers for the detention and "deportation of certain political prisoners."

Civil Establishments.

18. The changes during the year were as follows:—

Lieutenant Governor Griffith arrived on the 17th May from the Gold Coast, and relieved Captain Moloney, who had been administering the Government of Lagos since the death of Governor Ussher. Mr. C. D. Turton was relieved of the acting appointment of Assistant Colonial Secretary by Mr. Frank Simpson on the 1st June. Mr. Simpson left Lagos for duty at Accra on the 14th October.

Mr. C. Pike acted as assistant Colonial Secretary from the 16th to the 31st October. On the 1st of November Mr. H. B. Griffith, confidential clerk, relieved Mr. Pike of the duties of Acting Assistant Colonial Secretary. Mr. C. G. Blackburn left the Settlement on the 1st June on leave of absence for six months, he was granted an extension of leave for one month on half pay; he returned to the Settlement on the 28th December 1881. Mr. Whittington, harbour master, left on the 18th June on leave of absence for six months, and returned on the 28th December 1881.

Mr. S. Sheldon, engineer of Government vessels, left the Settlement 4th December on leave of absence.

Dr. Rowland, assistant Colonial Surgeon left for England on leave of absence on the 16th June.

Dr. Derwent Waldron assumed the duties of Assistant Colonial Surgeon on the 10th November.

Captain R. W. Bastow was in command of the constabulary to the 7th February when he left for the Gold Coast on duty. Captain D. A. Lysaght succeeded Captain Bastow on the 7th February, and left the Settlement for the Gold Coast 5th March. Captain Bastow returned 22nd May and left the Settlement on leave the 19th November.

Captain Forbes assumed command of the constabulary on the 29th November. Mr. A. C. Willoughby was appointed Deputy Sheriff from 15th March. Mr. H. W. MacLeod returned to the Settlement from the Gold Coast the 30th March; he left for England on leave 30th May.

Mr. Turton acted as puisne Judge from 30th May to 3rd September, the date he embarked for England on leave of absence.

19. The duties of District Commissioner were performed by the following gentlemen, namely:—

Mr. C. G. Blackburn from 1st January to 29th March. Mr. C. D. Turton from 30th March to 31st May. Captain R. W. Bastow from 1st June to 18th November. Mr. Nash Williams from 19th November to 22nd November. Mr. J. A. Payne from 23rd November to 26th December. Captain A. W. Forbes from 27th December to end of the year.

Pensions.

20. There has been no addition to the pension list, which remains at 1,312*l.* 10*s.* exclusive of 70*l.* for Mr. Tickel, late Commissioner of Badagry, which is held in abeyance in consequence of his holding appointments under Government, the emoluments of which are equal to those of the offices from which he retired. The charges of 125*l.* for two Badagry chiefs are provided for and paid under the head of "Aborigines."

Population.

21. According to the Census taken in 1881, the population given was as follows:—

——	Males.	Females.	Total.
Lagos and its vicinity - -	27,162	26,234	53,396
Northern districts - -	4,545	5,018	9,563
Eastern districts - -	2,210	2,309	4,519
Western districts - -	3,748	4,044	7,792
Total - -	37,665	37,605	75,270

22. The figures above include the white portion of the population of 109 males and 8 females, the coloured portion being 37,556 males and 37,597 females.

23. The following table will give the number of births, marriages, and deaths during the past five years.

Years.	Births.	Marriages.	Deaths.
1877 - - - -	201	61	656
1878 - - - -	197	69	842
1879 - - - -	194	81	840
1880 - - -	195	87	682
1881 - - - -	248	65	688

Ecclesiastical.

24. The religious denominations remain the same as in previous years—the table below includes Lagos and the Protectorate—and are as follows:—

Religious Denomination.	No. of Clergy.	Churches and other Buildings used for Public Worship.	Accommodation for Persons attending.	Number of Persons generally attending.
Church of England	9	14	4,350	3,044
Wesleyan -	7	7	3,150	965
Roman Catholic -	5	3	2,890	990
Baptist - -	1	2	360	185
Total -	22	26	10,750	5,184

Education.

25. The average attendance at the various schools during the year 1881 has been—

			£
Church of England -	1,252	Expense	1,673
Wesleyan - -	565	„	782
Roman Catholic - -	337	„	525
Baptist - - -	68	„	125
Hussey Charity School -	15	„	240

26. The Church Missionary Society, Wesleyan and Roman Catholic each receive a grant of 200*l.* per annum in aid of education.

27. There is also a sum of 100*l.* per annum provided annually for the education and maintenance of liberated African children.

28. In reference to the Hussey Charity School, I may remark that the approximate sum of 240*l.* stated above is contemplated to cover the expense of clothing, food, and necessaries for the children.

Imports and Exports.

29. The following table shows the value of the imports and exports of the Settlement during the past three years:—

Year.	Imports.	Exports.
	£	
1879 - - - -	527,872	654,380
1880 - - - -	407,370	576,510
1881 - - - -	333,659	460,007

30. There has been a gradual downward tendency in the imports during the past three years, due to the causes referred to in the fifth paragraph.

31. There was also an enormous stock of duty-paid spirits in the hands of merchants in the Settlement at the beginning of last year.

32. The chief imports during the last two years, inclusive of goods in transit, were:—

Articles.	1880.	1881.
	£	£
Cotton Goods - - -	141,635	102,034
Cowries - - - -	18,071	6,361
Guns - - - -	7,228	3,010
Spirits - - - -	91,396	101,496
Tobacco - - - -	24,901	24,442

33. The value of spirits entered for transit in 1881 exceeded that of 1880 by 15,388*l.*

34. The value of goods entered for transit in 1880 and 1881 were 34,749*l.*, and 45,112*l.* respectively.

35. And the value of goods on which ad valorem duty was charged amounted to 146,206*l.*, as compared with 214,276*l.*, in the year previous.

36. The duties collected during the year on goods entered for home consumption amounted to 33,402*l.*, and on goods entered in transit by inland waters at a less rate of duty to 2,545*l.*, making the gross amount of Customs revenue 35,947*l.*

37. The exports for the year amounted to 460,007*l.* as compared with 576,510*l.* in the year previous, showing a decrease of 116,503*l.*

38. Exports during the past three years have been—

Year.	Produce and Manufactures of the Colony.	British, Foreign, and other Colonial Produce and Manufactures.	Total.
	£	£	£
1879 - - -	530,790	123,590	654,380
1880 - - -	484,275	92,235	576,510
1881 - - -	379,050	80,957	460,007

39. The chief exports during the past three years have been as follows:

	Palm Oil.		Palm Kernels.	
	Gallons.	Value.	Tons.	Value.
		£		£
1879 - -	2,469,418	208,795	27,840	319,445
1880 - -	1,526,423	133,225	29,633	346,146
1881 - -	1,807,297	147,423	20,801	221,634

40. The same remarks in reference to the imports apply equally as well to the exports as they are affected in the same degree.

Shipping.

41. The following tables show the number of steam and sailing vessels entered and cleared from the Settlement during the past two years, namely:—

Entered.

	1880.			1881.		
	No.	Tons.	Crews.	No.	Tons.	Crews.
Sailing vessels - -	96	28,090	975	69	19,395	662
Mail steamers - -	136	148,937	5,978	128	134,827	6,016
Coasting or colonial steamers - -	122	10,938	2,424	113	10,877	2,594
Other Steamers - -	12	2,775	227	10	2,112	202
Total - -	366	190,740	9,604	320	167,211	9,474

Cleared.

	1880.			1881.		
	No.	Tons.	Crews.	No.	Tons.	Crews.
Sailing vessels - -	96	27,260	945	64	17,882	611
Mail steamers - -	135	147,370	6,110	128	134,744	6,016
Coasting or colonial steamers - -	127	11,670	2,578	110	10,079	2,517
Other steamers - -	10	2,318	159	10	2,178	223
Total - -	368	188,618	9,792	312	164,883	9,367

42. The carrying trade between Europe and Lagos now is chiefly done by steamers in preference to sailing ships; the freight of the former having been reduced to a minimum, which, added to the greater swiftness of conveyance, induces importers to give the preference to steamers. There is also the advantage of weekly communication with through freight to and from Hamburg and Havre direct to the wharfs at Lagos, affording every facility to merchants and traders, and thus saving the demurrage which often occurs with sailing vessels, owing either to bad bars, want of tow boats, or to the insufficiency of cargo to fill them within their allotted time.

Gaols and Prisoners.

43. In 1881 there were 226 persons committed, namely:—215 men, eight women, and three juveniles.

44. Deaths during the year were 12 as compared with four in the previous year.

45. The daily average number of prisoners has been 127.

46. The cost of the gaol department for the year has been: Salaries, 928*l.* 19*s.* 9*d.*; allowances, 43*l.*; bedding and necessaries, 93*l.* 4*s.* 2*d.*; clothing, 3*l.* 15*s.*; provisions, 1,058*l.* 3*s.* 9*d.*; making a total of 2,127*l.* 2*s.* 8*d.*

Criminal Statistics.

47. The following is a comparative statement of the number of persons apprehended and summoned in the past three years :—

—	1879.	1880.	1881.
Number of persons apprehended, and summoned - - - - -	995	709	414

48. In 1881, 68 were discharged for want of evidence; 15 dismissed on the merits; 264 were summarily convicted, and 67 committed for trial.

49. Of the number committed for trial in the Superior Court 37 were convicted; judgment for prisoners 27 ; and 3 cases fell through for want of prosecution.

Hospitals, Lunatic Asylum, and Charitable Institutions.

50. At the beginning of the year there were 18 males and eight females in the Colonial Hospital from the year previous. During the year, 301 males and 46 females were admitted, being 198 less than the year before. Of the above number 306 were cured, four relieved, and five not improved.

51. The deaths were 33 males and 11 females.

52. There was only one case of small-pox amongst the patients, and there were five of chicken-pox.

53. The number vaccinated successfully during the year was 16,237.

54. The number of out-patients amounted to 9,067.

55. The cost of the Department during the year has been for :—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Salaries and allowances - -	1,325	13	4
Provisions, clothing, bedding and necessaries - - -	786	14	11
Vaccination expenses - -	422	7	0

56 The only place provided for the confinement of lunatics is a room within the walls of the prison.

57. There is no charitable institution in the Settlement; destitute natives are occasionally relieved from the vote for "Charitable Allowances."

58. The health of the Settlement during the year was good.

I have, &c.

His Excellency
The Administrator of the
Gold Coast Colony.

(Signed) FRANK SIMPSON,
Acting Administrator.

Straits Settlements.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

No. 12.

Governor Sir F. A. Weld, K.C.M.G., to the Right Hon. the Earl of Kimberley.

Government House, Penang,
July 22, 1882.

My Lord,

I have the honour to transmit to your Lordship the Blue Book of the Straits Settlements for the year 1881, together with a Report thereon, as well as the Administration Reports of Penang and Malacca.

I have, &c.
(Signed) Fred. A. Weld,
Governor.

The Right Hon.
The Earl of Kimberley,
&c. &c.

Report on the Straits Settlements Blue Book for the Year 1881.

Finance.

Revenue.

1. The revenue of the whole Colony amounted in 1881 to $2,433,821, being $149,243 in excess of the estimates, and $72,520 in excess of the revenue actually received in the previous year 1880.

2. The principal items in which the estimates were exceeded were:—

Land revenue, $66,241, due mainly to more efficient collections by a strengthened Department.

Stamps, $24,674, which may be attributed partly to the increasing business of the Colony, and partly to the fact that great efforts have been made to inform the natives of the requirements of the Stamp Ordinance, and the penalties for neglect to comply with them.

Port and harbour dues gave an increase of $14,051, the result of increased trade and a larger number of vessels using the ports of the Colony.

There was also an increase of $8,032 in postage stamps, an item which shows a healthy state of business.

Interest shows an increase of $14,950, received from the larger cash balances of the Colony, and improved banking arrangements.

Under the other heads of revenue—rent, exclusive of land licenses, fines, &c., fees of office, reimbursements, sale of Government property, and special receipts the actual revenue in every case exceeded the estimates, and amounted in the whole to $22,101. STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

3. Under only one head of revenue was there a deficiency, and that was Miscellaneous Receipts, a source of revenue which can never be estimated with accuracy, and here the actual receipts fell short of the estimates by $808.

4. It is satisfactory to be able to report that, comparing the revenue of 1881 with that received in 1880, the former shows an increase over the latter in every important branch of revenue.

5. The total sums expended on all services during 1881 amounted to $2,355,807, a sum $177,032 in excesss of the estimates, and $316,860 in excess of the expenditure in 1880. Expenditure.

6. The various sums provided in the estimates were exceeded by $296,320, while savings were effected on certain items amounting in all to $119,288, the difference giving the excess above stated.

7. The total excess was caused by increased and unforeseen expenditure under many heads, the most important of which were the following:—

Lighthouses, $45,628, balance paid on the Formosa light-ship, and the cost of a new harbour light at Penang.

Works and buildings, $29,099, due to the fact that the Public Works Department was able to get on more rapidly with certain important works then under construction.

And, lastly, special expenses, $184,420, mainly an instalment of $180,000 which the Colony was called upon to pay in reduction of expenses incurred in military operations in the Malay States in 1875–76. Had it not been for this last call on the funds of the Colony, the total estimated expenditure in 1881 would not have been exceeded.

8. Comparing the actual with the estimated expenditure 1881, it should be stated that a saving of $30,877 was effected under the heading Establishments, owing to vacancies in appointments and salaries being drawn at lower figures than those in the estimates. There was also a saving in office contingencies amounting to $3,474.

9. Considerable savings were also effected under the headings Medical and Police, partly due to over-estimates for certain services, and partly to the fact that certain payments estimated to fall due in 1881 were not actually made till 1882. The only other saving of importance was $22,246 on roads, streets, and bridges, due to the impossibility of getting contractors to complete works in Province Wellesley and Malacca.

10. Besides the large unforeseen excesses to which reference has already been made, the estimated expenditure was exceeded in the following items:—Gaols $2,280, rations for an increased number of prisoners; conveyance of mails, $7,563, a payment of arrears to the Imperial Post Office; transport, $6,008, passages of police and other officers from England and India; and miscellaneous

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

services, $13,407, made up of excesses for stationery, rewards for destruction of wild beasts, expenses of fire commissions, cost of invalid Indian convicts (recoverable), and a vote for participating in the Melbourne Exhibition.

11. The actual expenditure of 1881 shows an increase of $316,860 over that of the previous year, which is thus explained: Salaries, $55,971, from the additions of European and Sikh constables to the police force; from the increase in the number and salaries of the magistrates; and from the appointments of Government engineer surveyors, &c. There was also increased expenditure in the Education Department, the expenditure in which must be expected to grow from year to year for some time to come; in the land branch, a department which more than repays the increased expenditure on its personnel; and in the post office.

12. Under the heading services, exclusive of establishments, there was in 1881 an increased expenditure over that of the previous year of $19,656 for expenses of revenue survey and purchase of stamps; $2,759, charitable allowances; $9,420, education, mainly for building grants; $5,095, police department, clothing, stores, &c. for an increased force; $22,300, increase on the vote lighthouses, owing to the placing of the new lightship on the Formosa bank; $8,410 increase on the vote transport, for passages of police from England and India; miscellaneous services $17,702, which is more than accounted for by the cost of the census, $20,062; works and buildings, $63,790, the increased expenditure being incurred, as already stated, from the fact that more work was done in 1881 than had been found possible in 1880. The principal increases were as follows, against expenditure on the same works in 1880 :—

	$
Teluk Ayer reclamation - -	35,033
New European hospital - - -	12,247
Marine Department offices - -	12,787
New Post Office, Penang - -	4,999

While on new works the following sums were expended :—

Central Police Station, Penang - -	9,933
New General and Lock Hospital, Penang	27,264

Finally, as already stated, there was a "Special Expenditure" of $180,000 for war expenses, against $6,162 expended under the same vote in the previous year.

13. In the same comparison, the 1881 expenditure showed savings on that of 1880 under the following heads :—Pensions, harbour department, Government vessels, conveyance of mails, interest, and roads, streets, and bridges, amounting in all to $70,761.

Military expenditure.

14. The usual contribution of $235,976 was paid by the Colony to the Army Pay Department towards the expenses of Her Majesty's troops (one European regiment and a battery of Royal Artillery) quartered in the Straits Settlements. A sum of

$26,706 56 was also expended during the year in the construction and up-keep of military buildings, rent of quarters, &c.

15. During the year, the detachment of the Infantry regiment at Malacca was withdrawn to Singapore, and no troops are now quartered in the former Settlement. Two companies of the regiment continue to be stationed at Penang, but Fort Cornwallis is now occupied by the police, the Artillery having been concentrated at Singapore.

Balances.

16. *Balances.*—The credit balance of the Colony, which on 31st December 1880 stood at $818,015, had increased on 31st December 1881 to $875,604. It is likely that this substantial balance will be materially increased, for the debts of the Native States to the Colony, which are placed in the abstracts of assets and liabilities as asset dependencies, because not immediately realisable, are being rapidly paid off.

17. The financial position of the Colony continues, therefore, to be satisfactory: the revenue steadily increasing, the expenditure, even including the construction of many important public works, well within the revenue, while the balance to the credit of the Colony shows year by year an increased amount.

18. As this is a review of the transactions of 1881, the results of that and previous years have been discussed and compared, but in looking forward to the prospects of the Colony, which are in every respect hopeful, it may be mentioned, that the excise farms, let for three years in 1880, expire this year, and tenders have been called for. As the present farmers have already offered to continue the farms for a further period of three years at the present rate, it may be concluded that, in reletting this source of revenue, there is not likely to be any diminution in the amount to be received, and though it is undesirable that speculation or rivalry should ever result in the letting of these farms at a loss to the farmers, yet it is safe to anticipate some increase on the present prices.

Municipal revenue and expenditure.

19. The municipal revenue and expenditure of the three Settlements of the Colony for the years 1880 and 1881, with the balances on the 31st December of each year, are shown in the following table:—

Settlements.	Revenue. 1880.	Revenue. 1881.	Expenditure, 1880.	Expenditure, 1881.	Credit Balance, 31 Dec., 1880.	Credit Balance, 31 Dec., 1881.
	$	$	$	$	$	$
Singapore - -	278,477	283,813	288,687	287,469	19,960	16,305
Penang - -	148,332	142,848	144,705	124,903	3,714	21,659
Malacca - -	22,428	25,063	18,898	21,461	4,932	8,524
Total -	449,237	451,724	452,290	433,833	28,606	46,488

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

Post Office Savings Bank.

Singapore.

20. Ninety-seven (97) new accounts were opened during the year, against 75 in 1880; whilst 75 accounts were closed, against 47 in the previous year.

21. On 31st December, 1881, there were 275 accounts open, representing $37,035 68, against 253 accounts representing $34,706 39 on the 31st December 1880.

22. Since the bank was established in 1876, 619 accounts have been opened, and $101,772 78 deposited. Of this sum, $18,723 88 were paid in during 1881 in 448 deposits; $17,718 91 were withdrawn in 1881, against $13,563 10 in 1880.

23. The balance at the credit of depositors increased from $34,706 39 at the end of 1880, to $37,035 68 on the 31st December, 1881, at which date the available profit of the Bank was $395 20.

24. The interest allowed during the year was 4 per cent.

Penang.

25. The Penang Savings Bank was opened on the 1st March, 1881, and up to the 31st December, 20 accounts had been opened, and of these 6 were closed. $2,022 22 were deposited, and $1,449 withdrawn, exclusive of interest.

26. The balance in favour of the bank at the close of the year was 98 cents, the rate of interest being the same as in Singapore.

Legislation.

Ordinances.

27. The following Ordinances were passed by the Legislative Council of the Colony during the year 1881:—

I.—An Ordinance to provide for the Levy of Fees and Payments for Licenses.

II.—An Ordinance to consolidate and amend the Law relating to Stamps.

III.—An Ordinance for making temporary provision for securing the status of French Mail Steamers at the Ports of the Colony.

IV.—An Ordinance to amend Ordinance No. VII. of 1880. (Amending Tan Tock Seng's Hospital Ordinance.)

V.—An Ordinance to amend the Indian Act No. XXVI. of 1857. (Ferries Ordinance.)

VI.—An Ordinance for the raising by Debentures of a sum of one hundred thousand pounds sterling.

VII.—An Ordinance for making final provision for the Public Service for the year 1880.

VIII.—An Ordinance for making provision for the Public Service for the year 1882.

IX.—An Ordinance to make better provision by Law for the engagement of persons to serve in the Police Force.

X.—An Ordinance to enable the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation to issue Bank Notes in the Straits Settlements, and for other purposes.

28. The Ordinance No. II. of 1881, to amend and consolidate the law relating to stamps, was the most important enactment of the session. The general tendency of this measure is to lower the duties previously fixed, but it is trusted that this concession, with a stringent enforcement of the penalties for evasion, will increase the revenue derived from this source.

29. Ordinance No. IV. deals with a hospital trust; and No. V. with certain ferries in Province Wellesley.

30. The whole of the above measures received the gracious approval and allowance of Her Majesty, with the exception of No. VI., as it was found unnecessary to raise any money on loan. The object with which the Bill was introduced was to borrow a sum of 100,000*l.* to pay the cost of the operations of Her Majesty's troops in the Native States in 1875–1876, but on a scrutiny of the accounts the amount was reduced, and the payment being spread over three years, it was found the resources of the Colony would meet this charge without a loan.

Public Works.

31. The Public Works Department was engaged in many and important works during the year. The amounts expended in the respective Settlements were as follows:—

	$
Singapore - - - -	372,905
Penang - - - -	103,466
Malacca - - - -	12,085
	488,456

Singapore.

32. This is the largest sum expended for such a purpose since the Colony was established. In Singapore, the new European Hospital on an estimate of $36,250 was almost completed; new offices for the master attendant were finished at a total cost of $25,721; and on the two special works of the new prison on Pearl's Hill and the Teluk Ayer Bay reclamation, the sums of $111,847 and $140,812 were respectively expended. Regarding the prison, the total estimated cost of which was $337,000, but little more was required at the close of the year, and several portions of the buildings, which are on the separate system, were, as the work proceeded, occupied, though the whole of them could not be handed over to the gaol staff. Good progress, too, was made with the reclamation at Teluk Ayer, though unforeseen difficulties cropped up which will render a heavier expenditure necessary than was at first contemplated.

Penang.

33. Among the Penang works, special reference may be made to the completion, during the year, of important improvements at the central police station, involving an expenditure of $11,834; to the finishing of the new post office at a total cost of $6,000; and to the commencement of the much needed new general and Lock hospitals, on which $27,200 were expended.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

34. In Malacca no works of marked importance were undertaken.

Malacca.

Roads, streets, and bridges.

35. Besides the above expenditure through the Public Works Department, $32,603 were spent in Penang and Province Wellesley in the reconstruction and maintenance of roads, streets, and bridges, and $22,258 under the same heading in Malacca. In Singapore, where the Municipal Commissioners take charge of all the public roads, &c. in the island, only $941 were expended by the Government.

Education.

Schools inspected.

36. From the report of the inspector of schools, it is to be gathered that 69 schools were inspected during the year, and 2,491 pupils were presented for examination. Ten (10) of the schools were grant-in-aid boys' schools, 7 were Government English schools, 5 were girls' schools, and 47 were Government vernacular schools in which Malay is the only language taught.

Number of children receiving instruction.

37. The number of children, however, who were known to be receiving instruction in the Government schools, the aided schools, or in private schools, is 5,250, and besides these, there were no doubt other pupils being taught English, Tamil, and Malay, but no accurate information can be obtained about them. Regarding the Malays especially, it may be remarked that there are the Bandarsah schools, where the Koran is alone taught, and which are in reality religious classes.

Per-centage of children in all schools.

38. The taking of the census last year enables some idea to be formed of the per-centage of children who are undergoing instruction in all the schools of the Colony. It appears from the returns that there were 33,031 male children between the ages of 6 and 14, who were classed as follows:—

Europeans, Eurasians, Armenians, and Jews	961
Chinese - - - - -	7,383
Malays - - - - -	19,955
Klings, - - - - -	2,590
Other Asiatics - - - -	2,142
	33,031

Number attending schools.

39. The number of children attending the various known schools in the Colony was as follows:—

Europeans, &c. - -	768, or 80 per cent.
Chinese - - - -	2,086, or 28 „
Malays - - - -	2,053, or 10 „
Klings and other Asiatics, -	343, or 7 „

Native children.

40. This is not satisfactory as regards the native elements, but there are indications at the present time that education is now sought after by the parents of Malay and Kling children, and in one of the settlements, viz., Malacca, a Chinese gentleman has promised a handsome endowment for a purely Chinese school.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

41. The principal addition to school buildings during 1881 was the establishment of seven new Malay schools. The only other addition was that of an English branch school in Penang. School buildings.

42. The average attendance at the grants-in-aid schools for boys rose from 1,639 in 1880 to 1,744 in 1881. The number of pupils presented for examination was, however, slightly less, being 1,278, as against 1,351 in 1880. The passes obtained were 71 per cent. of those possible. Grants-in-aid schools.

43. In the Government schools where English is taught, and which are preparatory schools, the education only going up to Standard III., the average attendance had risen from 513 in 1880 to 581 in the past year, which is 80 per cent. of those in average enrolment for the same period. Government schools.

44. An improvement in the number of girls' schools is also to be noted, and five of such schools, as against three, are now regularly inspected. The number of girls presented for examination was 256. Girls' schools.

45. In the Government vernacular schools, also, there was a slight increase in numbers, the average attendance at the different Settlements being as follows for 1880 and 1881 :— Vernacular schools.

Settlements.	1880.	1881.
Singapore - - - -	271	276
Penang - - - -	300	320
Province Wellesley - -	198	199
Malacca - - - -	530	542
Total - -	1,299	1,337

46. The amount expended by the Government in connection with education during the past three years has been as follows :— Expenditure.

	$
1879 - - -	46,893
1880 - - -	53,141
1881 - - -	62,562

Small sums are received in the way of fees; the amount thus reimbursed in 1881 was $1,888, or $151 in excess of the collections during the previous year.

Postal Department.

47. As compared with last year, the returns for 1881 show an increase in all the important details of the post office. In 1880, the number of letters, papers, &c., received amounted to 827,831, while in 1881 the number had increased to 876,207. The numbers Postal work.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

despatched were 635,765 in 1880, and 642,674 in 1881, and this increase is perhaps somewhat the more remarkable, because there was a considerable falling off in the amount of Chinese correspondence posted at the Chinese sub-offices. The Postmaster-General reports that there were 3,000 letters less posted in 1880 than in the year before, and in view of the ever increasing Chinese population, it is clear that a large quantity of Chinese letters must be sent out of the Colony through unauthorised channels.

Accounts.

48. The accounts of the post office, as now kept under the regulations of the Postal Union, are so complicated, that it is almost impossible to state, in respect of any given year, how the revenue compares with the expenditure, but the excess of revenue is calculated by the Postmaster-General at $9,500 for 1881.

Money orders.

49. The money order business between the Colony and the United Kingdom has increased, and also between the Colony and China, but there has been a reduction in the local money orders. By money orders, 2,470*l.* 16*s.* 10*d.* were sent to England, and $1,966 37 transmitted to China. The value of local orders issued amounted to $3,983 31.

Rates of postage.

50. The rates of postage during the year have remained the same, except as regards the services between Singapore and Penang by the P. & O. mail steamers. In July this rate was reduced from six cents to four cents for the half-ounce. The ordinary rate by other than mail steamers is two cents.

Trade.

Imports.

51. The total value of the imports into the three Settlements for the year was $94,859,658, showing an increase of $11,141,545 over the value in 1880.

52. In Penang and Malacca respectively, there is a slight increase, but the above figures are principally made up by the increase in the value of imports into Singapore, amounting to $10,023,949.

Singapore.

53. In Singapore, the increase is derived as follows:—Imports from the United Kingdom, $1,929,088; from British Colonies, $754,786; and from foreign countries, $7,340,075.

Penang.

54. In Penang, there is a slight falling off of $615,514 in the imports from the United Kingdom, while those from foreign countries remain about the same, and those from British Colonies show an increase of $1,449,492.

Malacca.

55. In Malacca, the increase is again to be accounted for by the activity in trade with the Native states.

Local Trade.

56. The local import trade between the three Settlements of the Colony shows an increase of $42,342 in Singapore, and $104,171 in Malacca, while the returns of the value of imports into Penang give a decrease of $93,969. There is, therefore, a nett increase of $52,544.

Exports.

57. The total value of the exports from the Colony during the year was $77,925,962, being a decrease of $125,777 from the value in 1880.

58. There was a nett increase in the value of exports from Singapore of $3,422,207, and from Malacca of $284,791; but the exports from Penang show a decrease in value amounting to $3,832,775. STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

59. The value of exports to the United Kingdom alone from Singapore gives a large increase of $3,011,910, made up chiefly by the increased trade in tin, gutta percha, tapioca, pepper, sago, and rattans. The value of articles exported from Penang decreased by $243,748. To the United Kingdom.

60. The value of exports to British Colonies increased by $648,261 from Singapore, and by $424,262 from Malacca, while there was a decrease from Penang of $82,309. The increase, in respect of Singapore, is to be accounted for by the large quantity of salted fish exported to British Burmah, and of precious stones, gunnies, and timber to Hong Kong. To British Colonies.

61. The export trade of the Colony with foreign countries gives a decrease from Singapore of $237,964, being a heavy falling off to America and China, and in a lesser degree to France, French India, Sarawak, and Holland. Increases are noticeable from the Malay Peninsula, Siam, and Austria. There is also a decrease from Malacca of $139,471; and from Penang of $3,506,718. The exports from Penang fell off considerably to Sumatra, Holland, Siam, America and China. As a set off against this, there was a large increase of $907,777 in respect of the value of exports to the Malay Peninsula. To foreign countries.

62. The local exports between the three Settlements show a nett decrease of $28,381. There was a large decrease of exports from Singapore, but this was, to some extent, counterbalanced by increases from Penang and Malacca. Local trade.

63. The total volume of trade shown in the returns for the year amounts to the value of $172,785,620.

Shipping.

64. The number of vessels, exclusive of native craft, entered at the three ports of the Colony during 1881 was 4,808, with an aggregate tonnage of 2,964,866 tons, and crews numbering 195,539 persons. These figures show an increase over 1880 of 371 vessels, 164,271 tons, and 7,950 persons. There was an increase both in British and foreign ships. Inwards.

65. In Singapore 2,443 vessels, of an aggregate tonnage of 1,820,960 tons entered during the year, being an increase of 323 vessels and of 127,864 tons over 1880. There was an increase both in steamers and sailing vessels. Singapore.

66. In Penang 1,673 vessels entered, with an aggregate tonnage of 960,139 tons, being only 13 vessels and 15,872 tons more than in 1880. There was an increase of 65 in steamers, and a falling off of 52 in sailing vessels. Penang.

67. In Malacca 692 vessels of an aggregate tonnage of 183,767 tons entered. This shows an increase of 35 vessels and 21,535 tons over 1880. Malacca.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

Native craft.

68. The number of native craft has again decreased from 7,224 with a tonnage of 203,450 in 1880, to 6,269, with a tonnage of 172,687, in 1881. In Singapore the decrease is 185 craft and 11,816 tons. In Penang 657 craft and 18,076 tons. In Malacca 113 craft and 870 tons.

69. The falling off in Singapore is to be accounted for by the trade between the neighbouring Dutch colonies having been taken up by small coasting steamers; and in Penang it is owing to the still disturbed state of the northern part of Sumatra.

Outwards.

70. The number of vessels, exclusive of native craft, cleared from the three ports of the Colony during 1881 was 4,774 with an aggregate tonnage of 2,929,057 tons, and crews numbering 184,426 persons. This gives an increase over 1880 of 355 vessels and 223,707 tons.

Singapore.

71. From Singapore 2,418 vessels, with a tonnage of 1,789,753 cleared, being an increase of 309 vessels and 188,332 tons. The increase in steamers alone was 242, with a tonnage of 168,473 tons.

Penang.

72. From Penang 1,668 vessels of an aggregate tonnage of 956,117 cleared, being an increase of only 14 vessels and 14,330 tons. There was an increase of 65 steamers, but a decrease of 51 sailing ships.

Malacca.

73. From Malacca 688 vessels cleared, of an aggregate tonnage of 183,187, being an increase over 1880 of 32 vessels and 21,045 tons.

Native craft.

74. The number of native craft cleared from the three ports of the Colony was 7,380, of a tonnage of 201,338. This shows a decrease from 1880 of 311 craft and 9,021 tons.

Singapore.

75. In Singapore there is a decrease of 86 craft and 7,120 tons. In Penang of 74 craft and 1,222 tons. In Malacca of 151 craft and 689 tons.

Seamen.

76. During the year 920 Europeans were shipped and 970 discharged at the shipping offices of Singapore and Penang. Ten deaths were reported among European seamen, and 119 desertions. The number of natives shipped at the three Settlements was 7,206, and 6,775 were discharged. The deaths reported numbered 19, and the desertions 64.

Certificates of competency.

77. Twenty-seven person were examined for certificates of competency as masters and mates, of whom 19 passed and 8 failed.

Police and Crime.

Police.

78. *Police.*—The Inspector-General of Police is able to report "that a very marked improvement has taken place in the Police "Force of the Straits Settlements during the year." This is attributable to the re-organisation of the force, which was begun in 1881 on the basis of the recommendations of the Commission of 1879. Additional strength was acquired by the introduction of two new elements into the force, viz., a European and a Sikh contingent. Early in the year, two inspectors and twenty-one trained European constables arrived from England, and before the year expired, an Assistant Superintendent of Police (trained

in the Punjab Police Force) with 165 Sikhs of all ranks had been enrolled and placed on duty in Singapore and Penang. STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

79. The strength of the force at the close of the year was as follows:— Strength.

1	Inspector-General.
3	Superintendents.
3	Assistant Superintendents.
2	Chief Inspectors.
18	Inspectors.
29	European contingent (all ranks).
165	Sikh do. (do.)
1,207	Malay and Kling Contingents (all ranks).
Total - 1,428	of all ranks.

80. The cost of the maintenance of the force for the year (exclusive of transport) amounted to $221,277, as against $182,326 in 1880. Cost.

81. The number of cases arrested by the police during the year amounted to 17,057, an increase of 529 as compared with the previous year, and were distributed as follows:— Cases arrested.

Singapore - - - -	7,709
Penang - - - - -	8,598
Malacca - - - - -	750
	17,057

82. The number of offences reported to the police was 10,961, or 1,053 more than in 1880, but the number of cases discovered during the same period shows an increase of 1,398. Numerous cases reported are, however, of a trivial nature, and in many instances are dealt with by summonses in the police courts. Offences reported.

83. The police have charge of the registration of hackney carriages, and 2,016 were licensed during the year, being an increase of 130. Of the 986 licensed in Singapore, 11 were omnibuses, and 25 were jinrickshas, which were introduced into this Settlement for the first time this year. There were 616 cases of breach of the Hackney Carriages Ordinance heard by the magistrates. Hackney carriages.

84. The secret societies have not given much trouble during the year, but their influence for evil is still so great, that fresh legislation entirely suppressing the Red and White Flag (Mahomedan) societies was prepared, and provision made for exercising a more rigid control over the other societies. In Singapore, where there were 10 lodges, the number of members on the books was 33,103, but the number of actual subscribers was only 16,185. In Penang, with its six lodges, the total number of members was 46,795. In both Settlements there was an increase of members registered as compared with the previous year, viz., 4,786 in Singapore, and 2,217 in Penang. In Malacca, there were five registered lodges, the members of which numbered 5,716. Secret societies.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

Judicial Returns.

Supreme Court criminal cases.

85. *Supreme Court.*—The judicial returns show a considerable increase in the work of the courts. The number of criminal cases tried in the Supreme Court, in the different Settlements, amounted to 456. In 1879 they amounted to 410, and in 1880 to 324. The increase for 1881 was specially in Singapore, and the principal increase appears under the head of "theft, housebreaking." There were 15 cases of murder tried, and convictions obtained in four cases. There was a marked diminution in the number of cases of gang robbery.

Police court.

86. *Police Courts.*—The total number of cases brought before the magistrates for the past three years was as follows:—

Settlement.	1879.	1880.	1881.
Singapore - - -	8,707	8,908	10,875
Penang - - - -	7,601	7,594	8,673
Province Wellesley - -	3,466	4,883	3,831
Malacca - - - -	1,390	1,862	1,553

Court of Requests cases.

87. *Courts of Requests.*—The following table shows the work done in the Courts of Requests, which are presided over by a police magistrate in his capacity as a commissioner, with a jurisdiction limited to sums not exceeding fifty dollars:—

Settlement.	1879.	1880.	1881.
Singapore - - -	2,965	3,202	2,822
Penang - - - -	2,483	2,216	2,569
Province Wellesley - -	713	718	1,046
Malacca - - - -	1,463	945	837

Supreme Court civil cases.

88. *Supreme Court, Civil cases.*—Apart from the criminal cases, the return of cases tried and actions commenced in the Supreme Court was, for the three years, as follows:—

Settlement.	1879.	1880.	1881.
Singapore - - -	755	631	965
Penang - - - -	553	664	699
Malacca - - - -	99	105	129

89. The above figures do not include interpleader cases and magistrates' appeals, which in 1881 numbered 42 of the former and 27 of the latter. STRAITS SETTLEMENTS. Interpleader cases, &c.

Gaols.

90. *Singapore.*—Until the middle of the year, the prisoners in Singapore remained in the old gaol, but on the 14th July and on the 9th December, a large number was removed to two of the blocks in the new criminal prison on the Pearl's Hill. This allowed of the wards in which beri-beri had specially appeared being vacated. From that date no fresh cases of beri-beri, a disease which, as stated in previous reports, had proved very fatal, occurred. Singapore.

91. The daily average of criminal prisoners in Singapore during the year was 670, as compared with 532 in 1880, and 813 in 1879. The daily average on the sick list had considerably improved last year, the figures for the three years being as follows:—1879, 55·01; 1880, 109·25; 1881, 23·40. And the deaths, which in 1879 were 136, and in 1880 87, decreased to 35 in 1881. Criminal Prisoners.

92. The number of punishments during the year was 2,796, and the cause for this large number of cases is explained by the Inspector of prisons as arising from the state of disorganisation into which the prison had fallen through the relaxation of the rules of discipline rendered necessary by the sickness among the prisoners in the previous year. Punishments.

93. *Penang.*—The daily average number of prisoners in the Penang criminal prison was 351, a reduction of 93 on the similar average of 1880. The health of this gaol has, as usual, been excellent, the daily average of sick for 1881 having been only 4·75. Penang.

94. In this gaol, the number of punishments is still considered excessive. They amounted to 2,117, a number less by 193 than in 1880, when, however, the daily average was greater. The number of cases of flogging, or rather caning, was reduced from 913 in 1880 to 375 in 1881. Punishments.

95. *Malacca.*—The criminal prison in Malacca had a daily average of 59 during the year. The average on the sick list was 5·25, and there were no deaths in the prison. The prison punishments amounted to 136, of which 19 were inflicted by caning. Malacca.

96. The number of civil prisoners in all the Settlements was, on the daily average, 108. Their health was good in every respect. There were no deaths. Civil prisoners.

97. The cost of maintaining the gaols, civil and criminal, in the Colony amounted during the year to $86,573 as against $82,185 in 1880. The reimbursements from prison labour, &c., brought to the credit of the Colony, were $6,595, an increase of $343 as compared with 1880. Cost.

Health.

98. The health of the Colony during 1881 was good. No epidemic disease occurred, though there were localised outbreaks of small-pox and beri-beri.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

99. During the year 659 Europeans and 13,507 Natives were treated in all the hospitals, with 26 deaths amongst the Europeans and 1,101 amongst the Natives, giving a percentage of mortality to patients treated as follows:—

Europeans - - - -	3·94
Natives - - - - -	8·15

The following table shows the admissions, deaths, and average daily sick in all hospitals in 1881, as compared with similar returns for 1880:—

Settlements.	Admissions.		Deaths.		Average Daily Sick.	
	1880.	1881.	1880.	1881.	1880.	1881.
Singapore - -	7,777	7,617	616	561	867·37	690·94
Penang - -	3,926	3,683	290	274	449·96	385·48
Province Wellesley -	1,587	1,711	90	155	98·36	108·38
Malacca - -	1,198	1,155	82	137	95·15	119·06
Total -	14,488	14,166	1,078	1,127	1,510·84	1,303·86

100. By far the largest numbers of deaths occurred in the pauper hospitals, the chief causes being phagedœna, debility, and diseases of the digestive and nervous systems.

101. Four hundred and thirty-four (434) cases of beri-beri were treated, with 45 deaths, or about 10 per cent., a much lower rate of mortality than in previous years. There were 37 cases of small-pox, with 8 deaths, thirty-nine (39) cases of alcoholic poisoning were treated—26 Europeans, 3 Chinese, 1 Malay, and 9 Indians; one case terminated fatally. There were only 5 cases of opium poisoning—all Chinese—and no death; one thousand and seventy-six (1,076) cases of injury were treated, 35 of which terminated fatally. Surgical operations were performed in 61 cases, in 4 of which the patients succumbed.

102. Dealing with the work of the hospitals in the three Settlements of the Colony, the following results are shown.

Singapore.

General Hospital Singapore.

103. *General Hospital,*—No alterations were made in the buildings of the hospital, as a new hospital, now completed, was in course of construction. Four hundred and nineteen (419) cases were treated in the European ward, and of these 387 were discharged, 22 died, and 10 remained on 31st December 1881. The sick treated in this ward are mostly seamen. Nearly all the cases were imported into the Settlement, the diseases having been contracted at sea, or in Manila, Batavia, or elsewhere. These cases cannot be taken as due to the influences of the climate of the Colony.

104. In the native ward, 1,250 cases were treated, 776 from the general public, and 474 from the police force. Of these, 1,190 were discharged, 27 died, and 33 remained at the end of the year. No case from the police force terminated fatally. STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

105. Of the general public 501 cases were the result of injuries. Twenty-two (22) cases of beri-beri were admitted, in two of which death ensued. The admissions from the native police force were chiefly for very trifling ailments.

106. In both the European and native wards, many cases which terminated fatally were admitted to hospital in an advanced stage of disease.

107. *Prison Hospital.*—Thirteen (13) Europeans and 492 natives were treated in the hospital of the Criminal Prison. Of the Europeans, one died, and the rest were discharged. Among the native patients there were 229 cases of beri-beri, with 23 deaths. Nearly all these cases came from one ward in the old prison, and after that ward had been closed, the outbreak apparently ceased. Prison Hospital, Singapore.

108. The total number of deaths from all causes was 36, and of these four occurred in the hospital of the civil prison, where 12 cases from the criminal prison were treated.

109. The per-centage of deaths to treated in the prison hospitals was, therefore, 6 · 96.

110. *Pauper Hospital.*—This hospital affords accommodation for 552 patients. Three thousand nine hundred and sixty (3,960) patients were treated during the year, of whom 2,822 were discharged, 441 died, 248 absconded, 1 was transferred, and 448 remained under treatment at the close of the year. Pauper hospital Singapore.

111. The average daily sick numbered 457, and the per-centage of deaths to patients treated was 11 · 11, the lowest annual per-centage ever yet reached. During the year 30 female patients were treated, and as the accommodation for females was not considered either sufficient or of a satisfactory nature, the managing committee of this hospital has, in conjunction with the Government, undertaken to provide a new female ward, which is now under construction.

112. It is interesting to note that patients of the following nationalities were treated in this hospital during the year:—Arabs, Bengalis, Chinese, Europeans, Eurasians, Japanese, Javanese, Jews, Klings, Malays, Manilamen, Siamese, and Singalese; of whom 3,769 were Chinese.

113. The greatest number of deaths resulted from diarrhœa, dropsy and phthisis, but by far the largest from diarrhœa, 107 cases having resulted fatally out of 168 treated. This excessive mortality is accounted for by the wretched state in which the patients reached the hospital, many of them having contracted disease in neighbouring countries and only coming to Singapore for treatment when disease has already obtained a fatal hold upon them.

114. As has been pointed out in previous years, the hospitals of this Colony are availed of by the sick, not only of the Malay peninsula, but of many other neighbouring countries.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

Penang.

115. The state of health in Penang during 1881 was satisfactory.

General hospital, Penang.

116. *General Hospital.*—In this hospital, 861 cases were treated. Of these, 74 were Europeans, of whom 2 died, giving a death rate of 2·70 per cent.; while of the 787 natives, 24 died giving a death rate of 3·04 per cent. The buildings of this hospital underwent no alteration, as a new general hospital is now under construction and may be completed early in 1883.

Pauper hospital, Penang.

117. *Pauper Hospital.*—One thousand six hundred and seventy-two (1,672) cases were treated during the year, in 227 of which death ensued, giving a per-centage of mortality to treated of 13·57. In 1880 there were 1,684 cases, with a death rate of 13·11 per cent. Two new wards with accommodation for 80 patients were constructed during the year.

Prison hospital, Penang.

118. *Prison Hospital.*—The reports on this hospital are very satisfactory. Beyond one doubtful case of beri-beri, no case of disease likely to assume an epidemic form occurred. Of 64 Europeans admitted to prison, only 3 entered the hospital; there were no deaths. Out of 3,129 native prisoners, only 159 were admitted to the hospital, and only 6 cases terminated fatally, giving a death rate of 3·70. The per-centage of sick to prisoners, both European and native, was 5·07.

Province Wellesley.

119. As already stated, a slight epidemic of small-pox occurred in Province Wellesley towards the end of the year, and 22 deaths were due to this cause. In October, beri-beri broke out in the centre and south of Province Wellesley, and out of 230 cases treated in the district hospitals, there were 23 deaths. The disease appeared during the rains, and seemed to attack only new arrivals not yet acclimatised. Only Chinese were attacked.

District hospitals, P. W.

120. In the four district hospitals of Province Wellesley, 1,789 cases were treated during the year, and of these 155 died, giving a death rate of 8·66, a rate nearly double that of the previous year, but accounted for by attacks of small-pox and beri-beri above mentioned. Out of all the cases treated, 1,469 were estate coolies.

121. It is reported, that out of 70 deaths which occurred in the Central (Butterworth) Hospital, to which more serious cases are, if possible, removed, 53 occurred within five days after admission of the patients. Two thirds of all the deaths were due to diarrhœa and dysentery.

Malacca.

General hospital, Malacca.

122. The health of this Settlement was good.

123. *General Hospital.*—Of 290 cases treated in this hospital, 275 were discharged, 5 died, and 10 remained under treatment at the end of the year. The death rate was 1·72, and when it is added that, of the 5 deaths, 2 were from beri-beri, one the result of a crocodile bite, one a scalp wound, and one a cut throat, the generally good health of this Settlement may be readily inferred.

124. *Prison Hospital.*—Ninety-eight (98) cases were treated, with 1 death—that of a Chinaman suffering from chronic diarrhœa when committed to prison. Prison hospital, Malacca.

125. *Pauper Hospital.*—Seven hundred and thirty-six (736) cases were treated in this hospital, during the year; 485 were discharged, 125 died, 3 absconded, 2 were transferred, and 121 remained under treatment at the close of the year. The death rate was 16·95 per cent. to cases treated. Pauper hospital, Malacca.

126. The numbers treated in this hospital were considerably in excess of those admitted in 1880, and it is found that the majority, and these the worst cases, are estate coolies, who are often only admitted to hospital to die.

127. The hospital accommodation in Malacca is not sufficient for requirements, and very considerable alterations and extensions are now being undertaken; while, to meet the special wants of the estate coolies, it is proposed to build next year district hospitals in the near neighbourhood of the larger estates.

Leper Asylums.

128. *Singapore.*—Of 194 cases treated, 40 were discharged, 23 were transferred to the Leper Asylum at Pulau Jerajah, Penang, 35 died (giving a per-centage of mortality of 18·04), 60 absconded and 36 remained under treatment at the end of the year. It is proposed, when the Pulau Jerajah buildings have been sufficiently extended, to concentrate all the lepers at Pulau Jerajah. Singapore.

129. *Penang.*—One hundred and eleven (111) cases were treated. Two were discharged, in 15 cases death occurred, 2 were transferred, 1 absconded, and 91 remained under treatment. These figures give a per-centage of deaths to cases treated of 13·51—a low rate, due to the fact that the lepers received from Singapore were in a better state of health than those usually admitted from outside. Penang.

130. *Malacca.*—The asylum at Pulau Serimbun was cleared in November 1881, and the patients transferred to Pulau Jerajah, Penang. Malacca.

Lunatic Asylum, Singapore.

131. In this hospital, 227 males and 34 females—total 261 cases—were treated during the year. Of these, 68 were discharged, 13 absconded, 35 died, and 145 remained under treatment at the end of the year. The inmates of this asylum are very seldom placed under restraint. Lunatic asylum.

132. The medical authorities do not consider that this hospital is built on a healthy site, and recommend the construction of a new lunatic asylum.

Lock Hospitals.

133. *Singapore.*—Eight thousand seven hundred and ninety-five (8,795) prostitutes "all nationalities," were examined during the year, and of these the admissions to hospital were 4·8 per cent. Of the "strictly Chinese" class, 10,317 were examined, Singapore.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

with 10·3 per cent. of admission. In 1880 the examinations and admissions were as follows: "All nationalities," 7,183, with 5·9 per cent. admissions; "strictly Chinese," 6,700, with 22·1 per cent. admissions. Fourteen thousand seven hundred and thirty-nine (14,739) licenses were granted.

134. There were no deaths in this hospital.

Penang.

135. *Penang.*—The total number of examinations was 13,000, and of these 1,175 were admitted to hospital, giving 9 per cent. of admissions, with 68 cases remaining from the previous year. The total number treated was 1,243. Twelve thousand two hundred and ten (12,210) licenses were issued.

136. No deaths occurred.

Malacca.

137. *Malacca.*—Eight thousand seven hundred and seventy-seven (8,777) examinations were held in Malacca, and 95 women were admitted to hospital, or 1·08 per cent.

138. There were no deaths.

Vaccination.

Vaccination.

139. Two thousand five hundred and fifty-two (2,552) cases were vaccinated in Singapore, of which 1,575 were successful. In Penang 3,143 cases were operated upon, and in 1,643 with success. In Province Wellesley 830 cases proved successful out of 1,863 vaccinated; while in Malacca 1,669 cases were vaccinated, and in 1,117 of these the operation proved successful. There are great complaints that the lymph received here from England loses its virtue, and thus the vaccination fails in such a large number of cases. Another system to procure better results is being tried.

Quarantine.

Quarantine.

140. No vessel arrived during the year with any infectious disease on board.

Out-Door Dispensary.

Dispensary.

141. An out-door dispensary was opened in Singapore towards the close of the year.

Temperature and Rainfall.

Temperature.

142. The average temperature of this year was 80·8° F., and the mean rainfall of various stations 92·29.

Immigration.

Indian Immigration.

143. *Indian.*—During the year 879 immigrants from India arrived in Penang, as against 1,191 in 1880. Of these, 729 were men and 150 women. There were 159 dependants.

144. The percentage of women shows an increase of 1 per cent. over the previous year.

145. Free passengers, or rather immigrants not under the Ordinance, to the number of 5,769, landed in the Colony, while 5,269 left it to return to their country.

146. There are now 11 estates in Province Wellesley employing immigrant labour, and on the 1st January 1881 there were employed 2,487 coolies under the Ordinance, and 2,315 not so protected. The percentage of deaths for all the estates was 3·68. STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

147. *Chinese.*—There were 90,271 Chinese immigrants examined on board vessels on their arrival at Singapore, as against 78,196 in 1880. Of these, 47,747 landed in Singapore, and 42,056 in Penang; the numbers for the preceding year being 46,744 and 30,886 respectively. Chinese immigration.

148. In Singapore 11,522, and in Penang 20,794, were admitted into the licensed depôts. These figures show an increase in the former settlement of 2,891, and in the latter of 7,310.

149. The numbers of coolies arriving who had paid their own passages were 36,225 in Singapore, and 21,262 in Penang, giving a total of 57,487 for 1881, against a total of 55,515 in 1880.

150. The number of women who arrived in the Colony was 3,065, of whom 2,067 landed in Singapore and 998 in Penang.

151. In Singapore 13,430 contracts of labour, and in Penang 19,043, were entered into. Of these, 2,376 were for labour in the former Settlement, and 6,939 in Penang and Province Wellesley. The rest were contracts to work in other countries outside this Colony, 11,503 being for Dutch colonies, and 6,064 for the protected Native states. Contracts of Labour.

152. The new Chinese Immigration Ordinance, No. IV. of 1880, came into operation during the year, and presents greater facilities to the Protector of Chinese, whose annual report is, on the whole, very satisfactory. Ordinance.

153. It will be seen from the figures above given that the emigration from the Colony to other countries has largely increased, and this is especially the case from Penang. Chinese emigration.

Lighthouses.

154. A new light ship, the *Formosa*, built in Hong Kong at a cost of $50,000, was placed on the Formosa Bank on the 21st December 1881. Lightship "Formosa."

155. The light is white, flashing, 38 feet above the water, and is of the first order of floating lights, visible from the deck of a ship at 10 miles distance.

156. The lights constructed and maintained by this Colony now comprise the following:—Harbour lights at Singapore, Penang, and Malacca; the Horsburgh, 33 miles E ½ N. from Singapore; lthe Raffles, 13 miles S.W. ¾ S. from Singapore; the Formosa ight ship anchored in lat. 1° 45′ 30″ N., and long. 102° 49′ 0″ E.; Pulau U ndan, a third order white flashing light on an island 10 miles S.E. by S. from Malacca (this light is 155 feet above the sea, visible at 20 miles distance); Cape Rachado light, 28 miles N.W. by W. ½ W. from Malacca; and the North Sands Screw Pile lighthouse. Straits lights.

157. A lighthouse is now in course of construction on Muka Head, the north headland of the island of Penang, which will light up the Deep Water Channel to Penang Roads. Muka Head Light.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

Maintenance.

158. Without considering the original cost of construction, the expenses of maintaining these lighthouses during 1881 amounted to $16,014, while $50,490 were received from light dues.

Population.

Births and Deaths.

159. The numbers of births registered show an increase of 1,069 over the year 1880, the figures being 6,002 in 1881, and 4,933 in the former year.

160. In 1881, the deaths registered amounted to 9,555 as against 8,240 in 1880, giving an increase of 1,315.

161. These figures must not be regarded as accurate, as the registration of births still works unsatisfactorily but the matter is still engaging the attention of Government, and it is hoped that, with the further measures about to be adopted, greater accuracy will be secured.

Census.

162. A census of the inhabitants of the Colony was taken in 1881, the result of which, as well as a comparison with the census of 1871, is shown in the following tables:—

Singapore.

Nationalities.	Census of 1871.			Census of 1881.		
	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.
Europeans - -	1,528	418	1,946	2,207	562	2,769
Eurasians - -	1,063	1,101	2,164	1,509	1,585	3,094
Malays - -	10,059	9,211	19,270	11,471	10,684	22,155
Chinese - -	47,104	7,468	54,572	72,571	14,195	86,766
Indians - -	9,492	1,948	11,440	9,619	2,439	12,058
Other Nationalities*	5,102	2,617	7,719	8,046	4,320	12,366
Total -	74,348	22,763	97,111	105,423	33,785	139,208

Penang Island, Province Wellesley and the Dindings.

Nationalities.	Census of 1871.			Census of 1881.		
	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.
Europeans - -	289	144	433	565	109	674
Eurasians - -	644	739	1,383	751	846	1,597
Malays - -	35,570	34,963	70,533	42,560	42,212	84,772
Chinese - -	30,347	6,214	36,561	55,313	12,507	67,820
Indians - -	13,943	4,470	18,413	20,337	6,699	27,036
Other Nationalities*	3,356	2,551	5,907	4,679	4,019	8,698
Total -	84,149	49,081	133,230	124,205	66,392	190,597

* These include:—Armenians, Aborigines of the Peninsula, Achinese, Africans, Anamese Arabs, Boyanese, Bugis, Burmese, Dyaks, Japanese, Javaense, Jawi Pekan, Jews, Manilamen, Parsees, Persians, Siamese, and Singhalese.

Malacca.

Nationalities.	Census of 1871.			Census of 1881.		
	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.
Europeans - -	31	19	50	31	9	40
Eurasians - -	1,056	1,169	2,225	1,075	1,138	2,213
Malays - -	28,165	29,372	57,537	32,784	34,729	67,513
Chinese - -	9,876	3,606	13,482	15,721	4,020	19,741
Indians - -	1,946	1,331	3,277	1,148	743	1,891
Other Nationalities*	862	323	1,185	1,300	881	2,181
Total -	41,936	35,820	77,756	52,059	41,520	93,579

* These include:—Armenians, Aborigines of the Peninsula, Achinese, Africans, Anamese, Arabs, Boyanese, Bugis, Burmese, Dyaks, Japanese, Javanese, Jawi Pekan, Jews, Manilamen, Parsees, Persians, Siamese, and Singhalese.

Census of the whole Colony.

1871.			1881.		
Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
200,433	107,664	308,097	281,687	141,697	423,384

163. The increase in population since the last census, 1871, is as follows:—Singapore, 43·3 per cent.; Penang 43 per cent.; Malacca, 20·3 per cent. On the whole Colony, an increase of 37·4 per cent.

164. The floating population was as follows:—

—	1871.	1881.	—
Singapore - -	407	670	
Penang - -	66	133	
Malacca - -	—	8	
Total -	473	811	Increase 338, or 77·1 per cent.

Establishments.

165. The department of the Registrar-General was abolished, and its duties divided between the Chinese Protectorate and the Medical Department. Registrar General.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

Promotions and appointments.

166. The following promotions and appointments were effected on the fixed establishments. They are given in the order of date in which they were made:—

(1.) Mr. E. S. Stevens, Assistant Superintendent of Police, Singapore.
(2.) Mr. A. M. Skinner, Auditor-General.
(3.) The Venerable Archdeacon Hose, Bishop of Singapore and Sarawak.
(4.) Mr. F. A. Swettenham, Asssistant Colonial Secretary.
(5.) Mr. A. P. Talbot, Second Assistant Colonial Secretary.
(6.) Mr. C. W. S. Kynnersley, Frst Magistrate, Penang.
(7.) Mr. A. W. V. Cousins, Second Magistrate, Singapore.
(8.) Mr. J. A. Harwood, Registrar of the Supreme Court, Penang.
(9.) The Rev. T. Meredith, Colonial Chaplain.
(10.) Mr. F. Powell, Assistant Protector of Chinese, Singapore.

Cadets.

167. The under-mentioned gentlemen were appointed to be cadets in the Civil Service of this Colony, viz., Messrs. H. A. Thompson, H. T. Haughton, W. Portley, and G. C. Wray, and they arrived on the 1st January, 1882.

General.

168. In concluding this report, attention may fairly be drawn to the continued prosperity and progress of the Colony. The population during the past ten years has been shown to have increased 37 per cent., and this is not to be attributed, as might perhaps have been expected, solely to a larger amount of immigration from China and elsewhere, but is due also to the considerable increase of about 27,000 persons, or 26 per cent., among the Malay population in the different Settlements. Then, too, the volume of trade has grown, including imports and exports, to the value of $172,785,620, equivalent to about 34,557,124*l.*, while ten years ago the corresponding returns of trade show the value to have been $107,824,262, or 21,584,852*l.* And although there was a slight falling off last year in the exports, owing to the state of affairs in Acheen, there is no doubt that, as the Native states continue to develop their resources, the export returns of the Colony must show a marked expansion of trade.

169. Or, again, as further signs of progress, it is only necessary to look to the increased revenue. The principal source is to be found under the head of licenses, namely, the opium and spirit farms, and although they were let for three years at the same annual charge from 1st January, 1880, yet the total revenue of the Colony for 1881 was better by $72,520 than in 1880, the increase being derived chiefly from land.

170. The Government has not failed to avail itself of this prosperous condition of the Colony. A large number of public improvements have been undertaken, and more are in course of preparation. The public departments are being strengthened where most needed. Sanitation, which carries with it great

expenditure, is receiving much attention. Crime, though far from being as yet under such control as it should be, is being seriously dealt with by means of a re-organised police force. On the whole it may be reported, that the material prosperity of the Colony is beneficially affecting all classes, and that the promise of the future is as full of hope as the retrospect of the past is satisfactory. STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

Native States.

171. The Blue Book contains no returns from the Malay States of Perak, Selangor, and Sungei Ujong, but as they are under British protection, and administered with the advice of British residents immediately responsible to the Government of this Colony the following tables of revenue and expenditure may be of interest :— Native states.

Revenue.

Revenue.

States.	1877.	1878.	1879.	1880.	1881.
	£	£	£	£	£
Perak - - -	312,875	328,608	388,372	582,496	692,861
Selangor - -	226,853	189,897	184,387	215,614	235,227
Sungei Ujong - -	97,574	75,898	76,631	83,799	97,665
Total -	637,302	594,403	649,390	881,909	1,025,753

Expenditure.

Expenditure.

Years.	Perak.			Selangor.			Sungei Ujong.		
	Expenditure.	Re-payment of Debts.	Total Payments.	Expenditure.	Re-payment of Debts.	Total Payments.	Expenditure.	Re-payment of Debts.	Total Payments.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1877 - -	282,511	10,200	292,711	163,370	68,721	232,091	84,395	12,943	97,338
1878 - -	268,379	23,094	291,473	159,357	28,267	187,624	70,831	5,971	76,802
1879 - -	295,455	74,252	369,707	149,487	36,242	185,729	59,425	15,826	75,251
1880 - -	373,698	148,297	521,995	158,105	44,701	202,806	70,642	6,500	77 142
1881 - -	496,956	155,982	652,938	188,377	46,006	234,383	64,019	9,449	73,468

NOTE.—The re-payments of debts include, in Perak and Selangor, sums due to private individuals as well as to this Government. In Sungei Ujong the re-payments arise out of debts due to this Government only.

(Signed) CECIL C. SMITH,
Colonial Secretary's Office, Colonial Secretary,
Singapore, 14th July 1882. Straits Settlements.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

PENANG.

PENANG.

No. 13

The ACTING LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR, Penang, to the COLONIAL SECRETARY, Straits Settlements.

Lieutenant-Governor's Office, Penang,
April 28, 1882.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit the statistical returns of this Settlement for the year 1881, and for the convenience of reference I have taken up the subjects in the same order as in the last annual report.

2. One of the principal events of the year was the census taking of the Colony, the returns for Penang showing a resident population of:—

Nationality.	Male.	Female.
Europeans - - - - -	565	109
Armenians - - - - -	17	15
Jews - - - - -	19	13
Eurasians - - - - -	751	846
Chinese - - - - -	55,313	12,507
Malays - - - - -	42,563	42,212
Tamils - - - - -	19,210	5,963
Jawi Pekans* and other Races - -	5,767	4,727
Grand Total of Inhabitants -	124,205	66,392

3. The trade of the Settlement has been fairly satisfactory throughout the year. I am informed, by those best able to judge, that piece goods have been in better inquiry than usual, and that other imports were up to the average; also that the bazaar generally has been in a healthy condition.

4. A great advance took place in the value of tin in the month of November, and large profits were made, the price of the metal quickly advancing from $28 to $33 per picul of 133⅓ lbs. English, but there is nothing to indicate as yet that this is stimulating production to any marked degree.

5. In consequence of this active business in tin, money was in very full demand.

6. Trade with Sumatra was slightly better, and fewer complaints have been made by east coast traders since the withdrawal of certain restrictions by the Dutch, which his Excellency the Governor was instrumental in effecting.

* Jawi Pekans are a class of Malays by intermarriage with natives of India.

7. Perhaps a more important feature to be noticed is the greatly-increasing cultivation of sugar by Chinese, both in Province Wellesley and in the Kurau district, and also the re-introduction of the nutmeg tree into the island, which is again being extensively cultivated in the district of Balik Pulau, chiefly through the enterprise of Mr. Koh Seang Tat. There are also indications of what may turn out to be a thriving industry in the cultivation of pepper by a colony of Achinese, who have settled down on land in Province Wellesley.

8. Annexed (Appendix No. 1) is an interesting paper on the agriculture of the Settlement, prepared by Mr. F. G. Penney, the collector of land revenue, at my request.

9. It will be gathered from this, that some of the Chinese of the trading class are applying their acquisitions to agriculture; and here I may appropriately add that it would be advantageous to the general good were the Government to continue its action in the way of forest conservancy and planting.

10. In view of the increased cultivation of sugar under European and native agency, I thought it would be both interesting and profitable to obtain some knowledge of the description of cane now being planted, and to Mr. Vermont, of Batu Kawan, I am indebted for the information which is given in Appendix No. 2. It will be observed that we now depend for planting chiefly on imported canes, though the Selangor cane, which is indigenous to the Peninsula, is again slightly in demand.

11. By way of summary for the year, it may be said that the Settlement has continued to advance in material prosperity.

12. The revenue has increased, and both trade and agriculture have improved.

13. Public works on a more extended scale than usual have been carried out, and designs for a reclamation in front of the town, and for a reservoir for the water supply have been prepared.

14. The municipality has given greater attention to town drainage, and has set apart a large portion of the rates to procure an iron market from home.

15. The police force has been materially strengthened, and most of the police stations on the Island have been connected by the telephone. A cable has already been laid down connecting Province Wellesley with the Island, and shortly the whole of the police stations of the Settlement will be in communication with the central station in Penang. Magistrates' courts are now opened in the south of the Island and at Kubang Semang, in Province Wellesley.

16. An open space, convenient to the town, has been placed at the disposal of Government by one of the principal inhabitants, and this is being now laid out as a public garden for the health and recreation of the townspeople. A town band is also being set on foot by public subscription. Arrangements are also being made to secure land for a botanical garden at the foot of the hill near the waterfall.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

PENANG.

17. The public library has been largely added to during the year.

18. In the town proper, extensive building operations have been carried out, and perhaps the greatest improvement yet made in our street architecture is about to be effected in a block of buildings in Beach Street.

19. In a word, progress has marked the year, and all classes of the inhabitants are sensible of the happy results that have been brought about by his Excellency the Governor's long residence in this part of the Colony, and his exact acquaintance with its various requirements.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. F. A. MCNAIR,
Major, R.A.,
Acting Lieutenant-Governor.

Colonial Revenue and Expenditure.

1. It is satisfactory to be enabled to record that the finances of the Settlement continue to be in a prosperous condition. The comparative statement of the Revenue and Expenditure for 1880 and 1881, drawn up by Mr. G. Norris, the Assistant Treasurer, shows that the net increase in 1881 amounted to $6,744. These figures do not include receipts or expenditure received or defrayed by the Crown agents.

2. The principal items of increase in the Revenue were under the heads of:—

	$	c.
I. Land Revenue - - -	2,303	75
II. Stamps - - -	6,495	62
III. Port and Harbour dues -	1,124	49
IV. Postage - - -	2,186	00

3. The increase in the stamps is ascribed chiefly to larger transactions in land.

4. The new Stamp Ordinance was only brought into operation on the 1st September, and although the duties on bonds, bills of sale and conveyances have been greatly reduced under the Ordinance, the receipts from revenue stamps in 1881 exceeded that for 1880 by $4,173.98, and that for 1879 by $12,105.43.

5. During the year 1880, two stamp agencies were opened in Province Wellesley, to afford increased facilities to the public and during 1881 two more were added, one at Bukit Mertajam and one at Bukit Tengah.

6. Attention will be drawn to the remaining items of increase under the heads to which they severally belong.

Municipal Revenue and Expenditure.

7. The returns furnished by Mr. D. C. Presgrave, the secretary to the Municipal Commissioners, show a slight diminution in the revenue of the municipality during the year, but this, the secretary reports, will be fully made up in 1882.

8. Part of the decrease is accounted for from the fact that the collection on the town house rates was affected by removals from Chulia Street to Campbell Street, whereby the assessment for the second half of the year on Chulia Street houses was lost, and the assessment on the Campbell Street houses will not fall due till 1882.

9. The rates on houses in Province Wellesley had, however, risen from $5,031.46 in 1880 to $10,020.48, which was due, in a great measure, to more vigilance on the part of the collectors.

10. In view of an anticipated expenditure in the erection of a new market for the town, it became the duty of the Municipal Commissioners to economize expenditure as much as possible during the year, which resulted in a balance at the close of it of $21,659.50.

11. By a judicious outlay of the funds at their disposal the commissioners were able, notwithstanding, to undertake certain works of public utility, such as re-cementing the town drains, raising the esplanade, and commencement of a road round the fort, improvements in Light Street, the purchase of a crane to afford facilities in landing and shipping cargo, and the extension of street lighting, chiefly in Northam Road and Campbell Street. They were also able to purchase lamps and chairs for the Town Hall as agreed upon in 1880.

12. In order to obtain reliable statistics of the mortality of the Settlement, the commissioners also set on foot a system of registration, which is being carried out by a staff of clerks under the secretary.

13. The roads, water supply, and conservancy of the town have been effectively maintained throughout the year.

Imports and Exports.

14. Attached is a comparative statement,* drawn up by the Harbour Department, of the imports and exports of the Settlement for the years 1880 and 1881. These returns show a marked increase this year of $771,214 under the head of imports, but a decrease of $3,832,775 under exports.

15. Annexed are also tables* which I have had prepared showing the principal articles of imports and exports since 1870, and a comparative statement* showing the declared value of the commerce of the port since 1867.

16. The chief advance in the import trade is from the Malayan Peninsula, which in 1880 was declared at a value of $1,821,159,

* Not printed.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

PENANG.

and has now reached the sum of $4,096,650, being an increase of $2,275,491. The greater part of this increase is, however, due to the returns for this year being made to include, under the Malay peninsula, ports tributary to Siam, which, last year, were included in the returns for Siam proper. The export trade to the peninsula has also increased, which is satisfactory.

17. There is a considerable decrease, however, in the import trade with Siam. The returns of 1880 showed the value of the trade at $2,269,384, which in 1881 reached only, $10,016, or a falling off of $2,259,368, but part of this is also due to alterations in the returns as referred to above.

18. The value of the import trade from the British Colonies was, however, quoted at $1,355,523 in advance of last year.

19. The imports from Sumatra are less by $430,686 than last year, and the exports still show a falling off of $1,070,149, or a total reduction in the import and export trade with Sumatra of $1,500,835, as against $3,479,575 last year The decrease in the tobacco trade with this port is due chiefly to the fact that most of it is now shipped direct to Singapore.

20. The decrease in the imports of pepper and areca nuts from Sumatra is significant, as indicating that the trade may be passing out of the hands of our merchants.

21. The large decrease in the imports of coals is accounted for by a large quantity being taken direct to depôts in Acheen.

22. The imports from the United Kingdom for the year amounted to $3,295,360, and the exports to $2,448,857, which is somewhat less than for 1880. Trade generally, however, has improved.

23. The import and export of opium has been steadily on the increase with the augmentation in the number of our Chinese population from year to year.

Shipping and Harbour Department.

24. In his comparative statement of revenue the harbour master shows an increase of $1,611.12 over last year, which is chiefly due to an addition to the fees in the Marine Magistrate's Court, and for surveying passenger ships and steam vessels. There is a slight diminution in shipping fees, however which is to be accounted for from the decrease in sailing vessels.

25. It is satisfactory to notice, that the fees for registering fishing boats have increased during the year, no fewer than 2,500 boats having been registered,

26. With regard to the shipping returns, there is an increase of 14,872 tons inwards, and 14,330 tons outwards, due to further steam communication. In native shipping there is, however, a further falling off.

27. During the year, a new harbour light has been exhibited from Fort Cornwallis. It is a fourth order fixed red light, and the focal plane is 60 feet above sea level.

28. The construction of a road to Muka Head and levelling of the site for the new lighthouse there has been proceeded with, and the building should be erected during 1882.

29. The buoys and beacons have been kept up in good order throughout the year.

30. Captain Fox reports on the advantage to the port of the Prye dock. Forty-one vessels were docked there during the year, of an aggregate tonnage of 11,025. He also states that the communication between Penang and Province Wellesley continues to be maintained satisfactorily by steam-launches belonging to private companies.

Land.

31. I have already shown, under the head of Colonial revenue and expenditure, that the increase under land revenue amounted, for the year, to $2,303 75.

32. Annexed is a tabular statement* drawn up by Mr. F. G. Penney, collector of Land Revenue, showing the various items of revenue and the excess or deficiency as compared with the estimates of the year.

33. It will be seen that the most satisfactory advance has been under the head of land rents. The sum collected in 1881—$38,661 92—is $13,661 92 above the estimates, and $7,190 73 over the total taken for 1880.

34. The sums received from quit rents have steadily progressed from the year 1878, when they stood at $22,427 17. In 1881 they reached the sum of $38,661 92. As evidence of the progress of the Settlement in this respect, it should be stated that in 1870 the amount received on this account was only $6,292 92.

35. In these later figures, there is, no doubt, a fair proportion of arrears which have been long outstanding, and are now being regularly collected. The assistance given by his Excellency the Governor in the addition to the staff of process servers has greatly helped to this result, but I may fairly add that much is also due to the increased exertion on the part of the officers of the Department.

36. District maps have been supplied during the year to the notice servers, and a more rapid collection of rents may be anticipated.

37. The year 1881, as stated by the collector of Land Revenue, was one of great activity in the land market, the nominal value of property registered being as follows :—

	Total Value registered in 1881.	Total Value actually transferred in 1881.
	$ c.	$ c.
Penang - - - -	1,336,425 57	1,003,627 59
Province Wellesley - -	372,878 09	68,745 09

1,433 transfers being registered by Malays and 474 by Chinese.

* Not printed.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

PENANG.

Post Office.

38. The receipt and transmission of letters, books, and papers through the post office has, owing to the addition to our population and the general progress of the place, continued to show a steady advance.

39. Of letters received, there was an increase of 11,838, of books 716, and papers 2,427; of those despatched 9,901, 215, and 6,882, respectively.

40. I annex the annual statement* which was drawn up by Captain Fox, R.N.R., who officiated for Mr. Anson, the postmaster, for the greater part of the year.

41. There is also a slight increase in the number of Chinese coolie letters, but not enough to justify the belief that the Chinese as yet put full confidence in our postal system.

42. Improvements have been made during the year in the postal communication between Penang and Province Wellesley, and as pillar boxes are shortly to be introduced, it is hoped that a further convenience will be afforded to the public. Improved arrangements are in course of being carried out for the sale of postage stamps equally with revenue stamps in various parts of the Province.

43. A money order system between this Settlement and India was introduced early in this year for the convenience of the natives of India residing in the Colony.

Indian Immigration.

44. Fewer immigrants have been received during this year than the last, the figures being 1,191 and 879 respectively. The number of free passengers, however, show a marked increase of 2,014 over the previous year. The number of indentured immigrants on all the estates at the close of the year was 2,314.

45. Desertions from the estates still continue at too high a percentage, as many as 414 coolies absconded during the year, and only 252 were arrested. No doubt that when immigration to the native states is approved we may look for a diminution in those numbers.

46. On the Governor paying a visit to the Butterworth Hospital in Province Wellesley in the month of July, certain coolies belonging to the Batu Kawan estate made complaints to his Excellency of ill-treatment. On this coming to the knowledge of the manager of the estate, he remonstrated, and asked for an inquiry, which his Excellency was pleased to grant, and to direct the assembly of a Commission.

47. The Commission was instructed to inquire, not only into the special instances reported, but into any cases of alleged ill-treatment, and generally into matters affecting the interests of the coolies and their employers.

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* Not printed

48. In November the Commission gave in their report, which went to show that on the Batu Kawan estate there existed a spirit of discontent, due to several causes which the Commissioners pointed out, but that, on the whole, the estates throughout the province were generally well regulated, and the condition of the Indian immigrants such as to leave no reasonable ground for complaint.

49. During seven months of the year, the Protector of Indian immigrants was absent on leave in Europe, and his duties were performed by Mr. U. Bruce and Mr. Evans, the inspector.

Chinese Immigration and Emigration.

50. The disposition on the part of the Chinese to emigrate to the Straits Settlements continues in full force, as many as 42,056 immigrants having arrived at this Settlement alone during the past year.

51. In 1880 there were 30,886, and in 1879 21,910.

52. These immigrants may be annually apportioned very much as follows:—

Emigrate to Sumatra - - -	8,000
To the Native States - - -	4,000
To Siamese territory - - -	1,500
To British Colonies, Rangoon and Calcutta	1,500
Return to China - - - -	7,000
Remain in the Settlement - -	9,000

53. The Protectorate Department, under Mr. E. Karl's management, has been fully occupied during the year, and the staff has been increased, 6,939 contracts for labour within the Colony, and 12,104 for labour without it, were entered into, showing an excess over last year of 5,094.

54. It may be interesting to note that *Sinkhehs*, or newly-arrived immigrants, who are engaged as labourers in the Colony—

a. Bind themselves to work 360 full days;
b. The 360 days are not necessarily consecutive days;
c. Their wages vary from $30 to $48 per annum;
d. Out of their wages, $18 to $21 per annum are deducted for passage money from China and other petty expenses;
e. They are fed by their employers;
f. They receive a free grant of a mosquito curtain, a bambu hat, 2 pairs of breeches, 2 towels and a pair of clogs to start with.

55. *Sinkhehs* who emigrate to Sumatra from this Port for employment on tobacco estates enter into a somewhat different engagement:—

a. The period of engagement is one year.
b. Advances are made to cover cost of their passage money, ranging from $21 to $22, and a sum of $8 to $9 is paid into their hands on signing the contract.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

PENANG.

c. They grow their own tobacco.

d. They feed themselves, provision money being advanced to them by their employers.

e. When employed in the sorting sheds, they receive 16 to 20 cents a day extra.

f. They sell their crop to their employer, and if after deducting advances the balance is in their favour, they may quit the estate even before the expiration of their year's engagement.

56. The encouragement to immigrate to these Settlements is, therefore, very great, and there is abundant field for employment.

57. A word as to secret societies. Mr. Karl reports that 2,417 new members were registered, and that the six secret societies here number 46,795 members.

58. With the single exception of a trifling dispute between the Ghee Hoks and Ghee Hins at Balik Pulau, the conduct of the societies has been most orderly throughout the year.

Education.

59. The annual report sent to me by Mr. Sneyd Kynnersley, the Acting Superintendent of Education, gives, upon the whole, an encouraging account of the progress of education in the Settlement during the year.

60. *Penang Free School.* — Mr. G. Griffin, head master, Mr. J. B. Kuays, acting. Two trained masters arrived from England in March, and the beneficial result of this addition to the teaching staff was commented upon by the Inspector, Mr. E. C. Hill, in the following terms :—" This yearly increase in the " per-centage of passes (viz., 66 as against 64 in 1880) no doubt " represents an improvement in the condition of the school, the " result probably of the action taken by the committee in " strengthening, by the appointment of certificated teachers, their " teaching staff, which now comprises five European masters."

61. The average enrolment for the year was 622, and the attendance averaged 461.

62. A Government elementary school was opened during the year, and will, no doubt, be a valuable feeder to the free school.

63. *Christian Brothers' School.* — Brother Aloysius, head master.

This school showed good results during the year.

64. The average number enrolled was 246, against 192 in 1880, and the average attendance 211.

65. The number on the list on the 31st October was 265.

66. At the inspection the number of pupils examined was 140, and the per-centage of passes 74 as against 67 in 1880.

67. Three boys were sent to Singapore in December to compete for the Government scholarships. One, from illness, was unable to go up for examination, but the other two obtained the third and sixth places respectively.

68. A new wing was completed to the school buildings, and the accommodation is now complete.

69. *Government Branch English School for Boys.* — Mr. J. L. Greene, master.

This school was opened on the 26th September under the revised rules for English schools dated 31st January 1879.

70. On the 31st of December, through the exertions of the master, the number of scholars rose to 50, and they are likely to increase.

71. The average daily attendance has been 26·9.

72. The average age of children 10 years.

73. The boys are nearly all Chinese, and are taught English through the medium of Malay.

74. *Province Wellesley Estate Schools.*—The education in these Tamil and English schools is entirely under the management of the Rev McD. Courtney, M.A., of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel. The Government, while acknowledging that missionary effort had done a great deal, is about to direct an examination to be held, with the view of making an annual grant to these schools.

75. The schools are four in number, viz., at the following estates:—Caledonia, Simpang Ampat, Bukit Tengah, and Prye, and will shortly be increased by another at Batu Kawan estate.

76. Out of a possible number of 198 children who might attend school, 131 are actually enrolled, and the average daily attendance has been 69 during the year. The school on the Prye estate was first opened in 1879 by the late Hon. J. Lamb, and now numbers 44 on the rolls, and a daily attendance of 28.

77. *Vernacular Schools.*—The attendance at these schools in Penang for the year averaged 290, out of an average enrolment of 387, or about 75 per cent. The sums expended for vernacular schools in Penang and Province Wellesley were $5,329; $3,219 of this was devoted to Penang, and $2,110 to Province Wellesley.

78. Two new schools were opened in Penang during the year, and the average attendance in each has been 37.

79. One trained student from the Malay College, Singapore, arrived here in February, and was placed as assistant teacher to the McCalister Road school in Penang.

80. The attendance at the schools in Province Wellesley averaged 191, out of an average enrolment of 302, or 63 per cent. Two new schools; one at Bagan Tuan Ketchil and the other at Pulau Mertajam, were opened during the year, the average attendance at which was 20 and 13 respectively. Two trained students from the Malay College, Singapore, arrived for duty in these schools.

Ecclesiastical.

81. No changes have taken place in this department during the year.

82. In St. George's Church, the Rev. J. Walker, Colonial chaplain, reports that the average attendance at the morning

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

PENANG.

service was 50, and the evening 162, and the greatest number that attended the two services together on any one day was 330.

83. The bishop of the diocese visited the Settlement in the month of November, and admitted 12 candidates to confirmation.

84. The Rev. McD. H. Courtney, M.A., reports that in Province Wellesley he holds divine service at 4 different stations during the month, covering an extent of 25 miles. The hour of service is 9 a.m., and on an average eight persons attend.

Medical.

85. The Senior Medical Officer reports that the general health of the Settlement may be characterised as fair.

86. The rainfall for the last three years has been 122, 99, and 101 inches, respectively. The mean daily maximum temperature for the year was 89° 8′, and the mean nightly temperature 75° 1′. The heaviest monthly rainfall for the year was in October, when 21 · 54 inches fell.

87. There have been a few cases of small-pox and beri-beri about the town, the former disease apparently introduced from the native territory north of the Muda River, and from Tongkah,* where it assumed an epidemic form.

88. Dr. Hampshire, from his experience of this climate, inclines to the view that heat and dryness diminish mortality amongst a native population, whilst frequent or heavy rains increase the same.

General Hospital.

89. During the year, 74 Europeans and 787 natives were treated. Of the former 2 died, and of the latter 24. The works for the new general hospital have made vast progress during the latter part of the year, and the beds should be occupied by January, 1883.

Pauper Hospital.

90. The number of admissions during the year amounted to 1,429, there being a daily average in the hospital of 223. Two new wards were completed during the year, giving accommodation for 80 patients.

Leper Hospital.

91. At this hospital, which is situated on an island called Pulau Jerajah, and is 9 miles from Penang town, there were 64 admissions during the year, the average number in hospital daily being 60 · 72. Of these, 15 died. Each patient has 1,237 cubic feet of air space, and they are all carefully tended by a resident apothecary and nurses. The hospital is visited by the Senior Medical Officer once a week, and occasionally by the Lieutenant-Governor.

* A Native State on the West coast of the Peninsula under Siamese rule, and situated in latitude 7° 51′ 12″ N. and longitude 98° 24′ E., about 200 miles northward of Penang.

92. In November, the numbers were augmented by transfers from Singapore and Malacca, it being decided by the Government to place all the lepers in the Colony in this hospital.

93. A reservoir with a good supply of water has been completed, and bath-houses have been built and water laid on for the convenience of the patients.

94. Arrangements have been made to grow vegetables on the island, and fishing stakes have been purchased to secure an unlimited supply of fresh fish.

Gaol Hospital.

95. The health of the prisoners has been very satisfactory all throughout the year. Out of 3,129 native prisoners under observation, 4·99 was the average daily number in hospital, and only three cases of Europeans out of a total number of 64.

96. There was one doubtful case of beri-beri.

97. In the month of June, the prisoners received from Singapore in 1880 were re-transferred to that Settlement.

98. Under the Contagious Diseases Ordinance, 13,000 women were examined, and it should be noticed that new houses registered under that Ordinance have been built in another quarter of the town, which, in a sanitary point of view, are an improvement.

99. At the close of the year, there were 68 women in the Lock hospital.

Vaccination.

100. Under the head of vaccination, the Colonial surgeon is able to report that 3,143 children were operated upon, and that rather more than one half were perfect cases. He refers to the want of efficacy in the lymph received from Europe, and considers that it is affected by the high temperature to which it is subjected in transit, and proposes that it be brought out in the ice-rooms of the P. and O. vessels by which it is generally sent. The Government are making arrangements to have this carried out if possible.

Province Wellesley.

101. The admissions into the four Government hospitals at Butterworth, Bertam, Bukit Minyak, and Sungei Bakap under the charge of Dr. McClosky, Colonial Surgeon, during the year was 1,711 against 1,587 in 1880; the deaths 155, against 90 in 1880, or a percentage of 9·05 as compared with 6·30 in 1880. The average daily sick in these hospitals was 108·38 in 1881 as against 98·36 in 1880.

102. Both small-pox and beri-beri made their appearance during the year. The former broke out in a village named Kubang Serai in the Bukit Tengah sub-division. There were 67 cases and 15 deaths. The disease towards the end of the year was dying out throughout Province Wellesley. Beri-beri first showed itself at a Chinese brick-kiln, in a village called Bagan Lalang, in the central division of Province Wellesley. Fourteen

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

PENANG.

cases were admitted into hospital from the disease, and two deaths were recorded. It also manifested itself in the Trans-Krian, and at Parit Buntar, close to our boundary. This disease was strictly confined to Chinese, and mostly among the young and unacclimatized. It broke out after an unusual amount of rain. The treatment first of all was isolation in a well ventilated building, a fair nitrogenous diet with stimulants (gin) in small quantities with diuretics, sudorifics, and occasional purgatives. Under this treatment cases progressed favourably. Amongst the Indian immigrants, the usual diseases of diarrhœa and dysentery prevailed during the year.

103. Vaccination in the province has been fairly well performed during the year. 1,863 cases were vaccinated, as compared with 2,007 cases in 1880. The average cost of each successful case is set down at 82 cents, and the cost of each case operated upon irrespective of failures was 39 cents.

Judicial.

104. *Supreme Court.*—It is not easy to arrive at an estimate of the amount of work performed in this Court, but I am able to give two explanatory returns* drawn up by Mr. J. A. Harwood the registrar.

105. From the return No. 15 it will be seen that the number of actions commenced was 424, and the number still pending at the close of the year was 321.

106. The following comparative table will also supply at a glance the number of cases entered in the Supreme Court during the last three years, showing on the whole no diminution in the numbers from year to year :—

	1879.	1880.	1881.
Criminal cases - - - -	231	218	249
Civil cases - - - -	459	367	424
Interpleaders - - - -	25	28	16
Ecclesiastical cases - - -	219	256	273
Bankruptcy cases - - -	6	5	5
Magistrates' appeals - - -	4	10	16
Matters in lunacy - - -	—	—	1
Total number of cases - -	1,010	884	984

107. From the figures given in the returns, it will be noticed that there is always an accumulation of arrears, which is unsatisfactory.

108. In regard to the registry, on the resignation of the office of registrar by Mr. Clutton on the 30th April, Mr. Kyshe, the deputy registrar, officiated until the arrival of Mr. J. A. Harwood in September.

109. The attention of the Government was drawn during the year to the state of the office records, and by the aid of an increased

* Not printed.

temporary staff, sanctioned by the Government, they are now being set in order.

110. For a portion of the year, the Supreme Court held its sittings in the new post office to enable the court house to be repaired.

111. *Magistrates' Courts, Penang.*—During the year, 8,673 cases were brought before the magistrates; of these 5,910 were police cases, and 2,763 summons cases. The work in these courts is on the increase, as will be shown from the following comparative table of cases prepared by Mr. Kynnersley, the first Magistrate:—

	1879.	1880.	1881.
Day cases - - -	5,574	5,464	5,910
Summons cases - - -	2,027	2,132	2,763
Total - - -	7,601	7,596	8,673

112. The number of cases committed for trial in the Supreme Court, and the number of persons implicated have been as follows:—

	1879.	1880.	1881.
Cases - - - - -	97	97	102
Persons - - - -	116	125	148

113. In regard to the collection of fees, there is a considerable falling off, owing to the reduction in the charge for processes, which came into operation in October, 1880. In 1880, they amounted to $4,194 10; this year the figures are $2,781 60.

114. *Magistrates' Courts, Province Wellesley.*—The number of police and summons cases disposed of in the police courts in Province Wellesley was 3,881 as against 4,883, and the number of convictions was less by 1,049, than the previous year.

115. Seventy-two (72) prisoners in 55 cases were committed for trial in the Supreme Court, showing a decrease of 45 as compared with the returns for 1880.

116. It having been decided to discontinue the employment of police constables to serve police court writs, four process servers were appointed during the year.

117. *Courts of Requests, Penang.*—This court holds two sittings a week, and is presided over alternately by the first and second magistrates.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

PENANG.

118. The work is here on the increase also, there being 353 cases over last year. In the revenue derived from fees, the excess over last year was $634 20; the figures being $6,265 40 and $6,899 60, respectively.

119. *Courts of Requests, Province Wellesley.*—There was a considerable increase in the number of cases, as shown in the following return for the last three years, a large number of which were for recovery of quit-rents due to Government:—

1879	-	-	-	-	713 cases
1880	-	-	-	-	718 „
1881	-	-	-	-	1,046 „

Gaols.

120. Discipline has been well maintained throughout the year, and the acting superintendant of prisons, Major Kerr of "The Buffs," reports favourably on all prison officers.

121. The daily average number in the criminal prison was 351·39, and there is separate cell accommodation for 296.

122. Of the 111 convicted in the Supreme Court during the year, there were 29 Malays and other natives of the Archipelago 73 Chinese, and 9 Tamils, from a male population, by last census, of 42,573, 55,313, and 19,210 respectively.

123. The health of the prisoners was very good.

124. There were four deaths in hospital, one prisoner condemned to death was duly executed, and one committed suicide in his cell.

125. Some of the prisoners were usefully employed without the walls stacking materials for the new hospitals, which are to be built immediately in front of the prison.

126. A full statistical gaol report will be found in the Blue Book, and a separate report now goes to the Secretary of State.

Police.

127. The peace of the Settlement has been well maintained throughout the year. The Chinese have given little, or no, trouble to the police, but the Red and White Flag societies are reported by Superintendent R. Maxwell to have been as bad as ever. The Legislature will shortly deal with these societies with the view to their suppression.

128. Several serious crimes have, I regret to say, been committed during the year; the most notable were:—

I.—A case of murder at Tanjong Tokong by Chinese. Two men were arrested, tried before the Supreme Court, but no conviction was obtained. The principal subsequently died, under the belief that he was haunted by the ghost of the murdered man.

II.—There was another case of murder near the Relau police station, the victim being a Chinese of over 60 years of age, who was strangled with a waist-belt by one

of his own countrymen. The murderer escaped, but was arrested the next day with the property of the deceased upon him. He was tried at the June assizes and executed.

III.—Another case of murder occurred in Province Wellesley. A Chinese labourer attacked his master with a hoe, and killed him. The quarrel was about a few cents only. He has been sentenced to death.

IV.—On the 14th July, a murder was committed at Sungei Kurau in Province Wellesley. A woman was stealing fruit from a tree, and was deliberately shot by one Awang Ebrahim, the owner of the ground. He has escaped to Kedah territory, and a reward is offered for his apprehension.

V.—There were two cases of arson on the Batu Kawan Sugar Estate, Province Wellesley, and sentences of three and five years rigorous imprisonment were accorded in the Supreme Court.

129. Gang robberies are reported to be on the decrease, and this is, no doubt, in a great part due to the fear of detection, owing to the introduction of telephonic communication.

130. At present, the new Central Station is in communication with Ayer Itam, Relau, Balik Pulau, Glugor, and Jelutong; and early in this year a cable was laid down across the Straits to connect Penang with Province Wellesley and the police stations in that district.

131. The officers and men of the force are generally well reported on by the superintendent, but the detective branch is still too weak for the duty it has to perform.

132. Thirty Sikhs were added to the force here during the year, and early in this year 30 more were added to the strength. They have been quartered in Fort Cornwallis, and take the guards, but do no duty at present as constables, and the streets are reported to be still insufficiently patrolled, but this is in course of correction.

Public Works.

133. There has been a larger expenditure on public works, by $22,384, than during the last year, chiefly under the head of works and buildings civil.

134. The principal buildings in hand have been the new general hospitals and Lock asylum, the police station near the powder magazine with the additions and alterations to the central police station. The important police guard house at Balik Pulau Pass was also completed.

135. Borings were commenced in view of the reclamation in front of the town, which has been for some years in contemplation.

136. The summit of Muk Head has been levelled and cleared of rocks in preparation for the erection of the lighthouse.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

PENANG.

137. On the roads throughout the Province, a less expenditure was incurred, owing to the difficulty of obtaining suitable contractors to undertake satisfactorily the work of metalling, which was, therefore, thrown on the Works Department to be done departmentally. The existing roads were, however, properly maintained and the public buildings kept in efficient repair.

Survey.

138. Owing to an increase in the staff, 5,440 acres of allotment survey over and above that done in 1880 were completed, and there was also an increase of work under the head of "Circuit Work."

139. Surveyor Mackenzie and Field Assistant Harper from Ceylon have done good work under the direction of the Acting Deputy Colonial Engineer and Surveyor-General, Mr. W. D. Bayliss, C.E., who has been in charge of both Works and Survey Departments throughout the year.

J. F. A. MCNAIR,
Major, R.A.,
Acting Lieutenant-Governor,
Penang.

Lieutenant-Governor's Office,
Penang, 28th April, 1882.

APPENDIX No. 1.

SOME NOTES UPON AGRICULTURE IN THE SETTLEMENT OF PENANG.

Padi.

1. This is planted about August in each year, and reaped in February or March. Only one crop per year is taken.

2. The produce of an orlong of good padi land is about 500 gantangs, and very fertile land bears as much as 700 gantangs an orlong.

3. Padi is sold by the 100 gantangs, and $5 per hundred may be taken as an average price.

4. Padi land is let at from $6 to $12 per orlong for one crop. Padi land fetches from $50 to $250 per orlong. It is, however, very difficult to state accurately the market price of padi land, because little of it changes hands, the Malays being very loth to part with it.

5. For this reason, I think, our home production of padi is not likely to decrease.

6. Last year the crop was fair, but the crop which is now being reaped is, in many districts, a very poor one. The excessive rains last year destroyed the nurseries which had been put out. In many cases this happened twice, and the consequence is that on a considerable area there is no crop at all.

7. This tells severely on many of the poorer classes, whose sole means of subsistence is derived from the harvest, and must seriously affect the amount collected during the year as land rents and payments to the Municipal fund.

8. The Muda Bund overflows every two or three years, and it was there that the principal loss was sustained.

9. The amount of rice imported into the Settlement last year exceeded in value by $279,332 the value imported in 1880.

Cocoa-nuts.

10. I do not think the area of cocoa-nut cultivation is increasing.

11. Many new small plots and gardens continue to be planted with them, but the forming of large plantations is not so common as formerly.

12. This is probably due to the lower price commanded by cocoa-nut oil at home, palm oil having, to a great extent, taken its place.

13. There was a falling off last year in value of $22,572 in cocoa-nuts grown in the Settlement, though this is no criterion as to the quantity produced in consequence of the fall in the price.

Betel-nuts.

14. This important article of export showed last year an increase of value of $18,116.

STRAITS. SETTLEMENTS. — PENANG. —

Sugar.

15. The export lists show a decrease in 1881 of the value of home grown sugar to the extent of $534,308. I cannot account for this deficiency, except that a large quantity may have been kept in store and not exported till the beginning of the current year.

16. The area of sugar cultivation is certainly not less than it was, and though one estate (Krian) has been abandoned, a new one (Byram) has been opened in its place.

17. There is likewise no sign of decrease in the number of small native plantations and buffaloe mills, which appear to pay well, the proprietors either manufacturing a coarse kind of sugar, or selling their produce to the owners of proper machinery.

18. Sugar land is let at about $6 per orlong, and commands this price even in Kedah, where I understand the title expires with occupation.

Tapioca.

19. According to the export returns there is very little differenc between the amount of home grown tapioca in 1880 and 1881 the latter showing a decrease of about $3,000.

20. As the price has fallen very much latterly, this need not be taken as indicative of a decrease in the production.

21. Besides the two large European estates—Alma and Malakoff —which manufacture tapioca with proper machinery, there is comparatively little of this root grown for export.

22. In the north of Province Wellesley, however, in the new territory, there is a considerable acreage of tapioca, which is hand-manufactured into flour.

Cattle.

23. The year 1881 shows an increase of $39,491 in the value imported. Probably in this year a great number were required to replace those killed by disease in 1879 and 1880.

24. I do not now hear reports of the disease, which resembled cholera in its symptons and the quickness of its action.

25. The establishment of direct communication between this port and Madras ought to have the effect of reducing the price of oxen.

Pepper.

26. This is quite a new production in the Settlement.

27. A few years ago a tract of land at Ara Kuda, towards the north of Province Wellesley, was placed at the disposal of some Achinese for the purpose of attempting the cultivation of pepper.

28. About 60 acres have been cleared and 20 planted, and the remainder will be planted up when the rains come in.

29. Some of the trees are now upwards of two years old, and, this year, furnished excellent samples.

30. More land for pepper has been applied for by other Achinese, and great benefit will accrue to this part of the district, which is thereby populated, should the cultivation continue to be successful.

31. The planters inform me that they expect to get as much as fifty piculs an orlong annually.

32. The Achinese are especially skilful in this species of culture. One good point about their system is that they use sun-heat and not fire in drying the pepper.

33. This prevents the promiscuous devastation of forest which was carried to a great extent in Singapore.

34. The pepper plants are trained up the stem of the *Dedap* tree, which is straight and durable. This tree is also furnished with sharp strong thorns, which, it is said, deter thieves from stealing the pepper at night.

Nutmegs.

35. This cultivation is being steadily proceeded with.

36. Before the disease came, about 20 years ago, it was a very profitable branch of agriculture, and nutmegs were planted extensively on low as well as on high ground.

37. Apart from the existence of the disease there was another reason why planting declined. This was the fact, that when the disease came the price fell. The American war prevented the importation of nutmegs into that country, which was the seat of the principal demand.

38. For the past few years, however, with immunity from disease and the re-establishment of good prices, the cultivation of nutmegs has been largely taken up, and, I believe, it would extend greatly were there enough land available.

39. On most of the hills in the island, especially towards Batu Feringhi, Teluk Bahang, Sungei Penang, Teluk Kumbar, there are thriving plantations.

40. Mr. Koh Seang Tat is the most extensive cultivator, and has now about 12,000 trees on his property.

41. The trees are planted terrace fashion at intervals of from 25 to 28 feet apart, and an orlong contains about 70 trees.

42. They come into bearing at the age of seven or eight years, and last for 40 years or upwards. This depends, however, altogether on the care bestowed on them. The roots, which spread near the surface, are very tender and liable to injury, and as they extend, so must the pit in which the tree is placed be enlarged.

43. During drought the roots are covered with grass, and the place irrigated; in wet seasons care must be taken not to let water collect about them.

44. The manures used are principally prawn refuse, night soil, and the ashes of burnt grass.

45. After the trees have come into bearing, two men per orlong are sufficient to take charge of a plantation, but this would hold good only of ordinary gardens, where much care is not taken to weed and keep down the lalang. In plantations highly cultivated a greater proportion would be necessary. I am informed that a plantation may yield produce to the value of $10 a tree yearly; giving 70 trees to the orlong, its annual produce would be then worth $700. This is a very high estimate, and I do not think the

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

PENANG.

average yield per orlong would be much over $250. I believe the Dutch Government used to calculate on a profit of $5 a tree per year.

46. The price of nutmegs is about $48 per pikul unshelled, about $72 per pikul shelled. Small growers sell them at about the rate of 50 cents per hundred. Mace sells at about 32 cents per catty.

47. There are two diseases to which the nutmeg tree is liable, *i.e.*, a worm which attacks the stem, and a sudden withering away which takes place quite unaccountably. It has been likened in its action to the attack of cholera on the human subject, and it is curious that the disease is most prevalent during great heat following on heavy rains.

48. At present there may be said to be no disease. When, however, any appearance of blight is seen, either the part of the tree affected is cut away or the whole tree removed, the earth where it stood burnt, and a fresh tree planted.

Miscellaneous.

49. Last year Mr. Logan introduced a steam plough into the north of the province.

50. The result has shown that though it may be worked on suitable ground *time for time* at a saving as compared with manual labour, yet the softness of the ground is such during the greater part of the year, and the field of *single* operations is so circumscribed by "bâtas," that on ordinary padi land the implement will probably not be found a profitable investment.

51. The case may, however, be different on the better drained and less enclosed tapioca and sugar estates, where also the period of the year during which the plough can work would be longer. Besides, there might be a great *indirect* saving, both of trouble and expense, by reason of the fewer coolies who would have to be employed. The saving in smaller hospitals and coolie lines, decreased litigation, &c., &c., may counterbalance drawbacks, and I understand Mr. Vermont, who is proceeding to England, has the intention of visiting Demerara, where the steam plough is considerably used, in order to see whether it might profitably be introduced into the Settlement.

52. A patent lalang cutter was also tried last year by Mr. Brown at Glugor, and proved very satisfactory, the saving in labour and cost being very considerable.

53. The forest rangers were by the directions of the Lieutenant-Governor employed in collecting specimens of forest trees, which were forwarded to Kew for identification.

54. Among them was found a new Dracaena (Dracaena Cantleyi). Further collections are now being made.

F. G. PENNEY,
Collector of Land Revenue.

APPENDIX No. 2.

List of Sugar-canes known in Province Wellesley, Straits Settlements, by J. M. Vermont, Esq.

INDIGENOUS.

Selangor.

This cane was largely cultivated in the Settlement by Europeans and Chinese when estates were first established. It gave such large returns in the new moist lands, and grew so luxuriously, that Leonard Wray in his book *The Practical Sugar Planter* drew the attention of planters to it; the result was that foreign Governments instructed their vessels of war, when calling at Penang, to procure and bring home plants. It has been known to grow twenty-five feet in length and nine inches in circumference at base, with fine bold joints right through. Sugar is greyish in appearance, owing to the rind being covered with a floury substance, hence its native named *Tebu Kapor*.

Tebu Kapor.

2. It shows broad drooping leaves, and the cane when ripe is a light greenish brown, does not flower very much, nor does it shed its leaves when dry, therefore has to be frequently thrashed or stripped; will rattoon well. Is quite out of cultivation. Planters are, however, now endeavouring to keep a few roods for planting, in case the cane disease should extend in the Mauritius cane.

Tebu Sala.

3. Grows almost wild; is not cultivated owing to the dense manner in which it grows. Sugar difficult to granulate; has joints 7½ inches in length, slim in girth, having very much the appearance of reeds; difficult to thrash; sheds no leaves, all must be pulled off when dry; leaves long and narrow; rind white, blue black in appearance; from want of cultivation juice low in density.

Tebu China.

4. Very much of the same nature as the last-mentioned variety; almost unknown now.

Tebu Bulong.

5. A black cane used by Malays as a cooling drink in case of fever; the cane is exposed to the dew and the juice pressed. To be found in Malay compounds growing at the edge of marshy places.

Tebu Gajah.

6. Used also for medicinal purposes in case of jungle fever; the root is ground and the juice thus extracted is drunk; found in the hill jungle.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

PENANG.

IMPORTED CANES.

Mauritius.

7. Thus called by having been imported from that place some 35 years ago by one of the early planters—Mr. Joseph Donnadieu. It has quite superseded the Selangor cane; is largely cultivated; it gives a good, grainy, clear sugar, yielding, on good soils, from 30 to 40 pikuls per orlong; it, however, requires careful cultivation and high manuring, as the land gets impoverished; does not rattoon; sheds its leaves as they get dry; leaves in appearance very light green and rather spiky; ripens in twelve months; rind orange colour when well ripe; recovers from drought rapidly. This cane was attacked by disease a few years ago. So serious did it become, that cane cultivation was almost despaired of; a field would be thriving, promising a good return, when, in a few days, without any apparent cause, it was seen to be withering as if struck with lightning; new or old land it was the same; it was more so in fields planted between May and September. Although the disease is very much on the decline, it is risky to plant this cane after May. To meet the ruin that threatened the cane cultivation, planters began to offer high prices for the discarded Selangor cane, and also imported the

Java Cane.

8. Which is a black purple cane; is reported to give very heavy returns in Java, but, whether owing to soil or climate, does not thrive here. It is now scarcely seen in the fields, although great expense was incurred to procure it.

Striped Bourbon Cane.

9. Imported from the Mauritius by the late Lawrence Nairne about fifteen years ago; it is gradually getting to be a favourite; apparently free from disease; in fact was planted in the Mauritius in consequence of the Mauritius cane being prone to disease; generally planted early and latter part of season; has been known to give as high as 47 pikuls of sugar per orlong in favourable seasons; does not put on fresh growth after a check from drought, does not shed its leaves, which are broad and very dark green, drooping; requires to be planted well apart, otherwise they will grow thin and tall; rind purple stripped light yellow; if leaves not well stripped, sugar liable to be very dark, owing to colour of rind impregnating juice; density high; can be cut in ten months.

Otaheite.

10. A cane imported very many years ago by Messrs. Brown and Co., and known now as the *Tebu Telor*, owing to the joints bulging out like an egg. It was largely cultivated on the Otaheite estate in the Ayer Itam valley, Penang; it is a hard, dry cane,

bright yellow, and very clean on the rind; hence it is cultivated principally for eating; does not pay to manufacture into sugar.

11. A variety of canes was introduced a few years ago from the West Indies, but only a few arrived in a condition to grow, and they have not done very well.

MALACCA.

No. 14.

The RESIDENT COUNCILLOR, Malacca, to the COLONIAL SECRETARY, Straits Settlements.

Resident Councillor's Office, Malacca,
June 19, 1882.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to submit, for the consideration of his Excellency the Governor, the accompanying report on the Settlement of Malacca for the year 1881.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. J. IRVING,
Resident Councillor.

ADMINISTRATION REPORT, MALACCA, 1881.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

Receipts and Payments, 1879, 1880 *and* 1881.

1. The revenue and expenditure of the Settlement, for the year 1881 and the two preceding years, may be stated as follows:—

	Revenue.	Expenditure.*
	$	$
1879 - - - -	147,956	162,558
1880 - - - -	181,948	178,052
1881 - - - -	204,858	168,773

The details of the receipts and payments during the three years, under the main heads of revenue and expenditure, are given in the statements A and B annexed.†

The Settlement self-supporting.

2. The transactions in 1881, it will be seen, show a surplus of revenue over expenditure of $36,085. The Settlement, therefore, in 1881, not only paid its expenses, but contributed a substantial amount towards the general expenditure of the Colony.

* The amounts include expenditure on account of the Settlement by the Crown Agents.

† Not printed.

REVENUE DETAILED.

Land Revenue.

3. Full details of the land revenue received in the three years are given in the statement C annexed.* The following figures give the general results:—

——	1879.	1880.	1881.
	$	$	$
Premium on leases - -	10,992	13,018	10,325
Rents - - - -	20,601	18,074	47,045
Tenths and royalties - -	14,098	18,525	15,794
	45,691	49,617	73,164
Survey fees, &c. - -	9,025	4,128	3,390
Fines for trespass, &c. -	535	1,293	1,166
Total - -	55,251	55,038	77,720

The revenue under this head will be further considered below under the heading "Land."

Licenses.

4. The revenue from licenses during the three years was as follows:—

——	1879.	1880.	1881.
	$	$	$
Opium - - - -	67,200	72,600	72,600
Spirits - - - -		27,000	27,000
Toddy and Bhang - -	682	186	—
Pawnbrokers - - -	1,800	2,100	2,100
Public Houses - - -	39	40	47
Total - -	69,721	101,926	101,747

Opium and Spirits.

5. The opium and spirit farms were let in 1879, for three years —1880, 1881, and 1882—at a very considerable advance, as the above figures will show; but there seems reason to doubt, whether even so the full value of farms was obtained. Calculations based on the rents of the opium and spirit farms at Penang and the

* Not printed.

population returns of the two Settlements respectively, would seem to show that rents of $125,000 for the opium and $40,000 for the spirit farm would not have been out of due proportion.

Opium Farm Expenses, Rent and Profits.

6. The quantity of opium retained for consumption in Malacca in 1881 was 60 chests, and the declared value nearly $40,000. The annual cost of management of the farm (opium and spirits) including interest on capital, has been estimated at about $29,000 a year. The profits of the farm are, of course, an unknown factor, but making a guess for the sake of illustration, that the calculated rent (*see* above) of $125,000 may lie half way between the present rent of $72,600, and the full amount available for rents and profits, the total amount to be covered by the payments of the consumers of the drug might be stated as follows:—

	$
Cost of opium - - - -	40,000
Management of the farm (opium division) including interest on capital, say -	24,600
Present farm rent - - -	72,600
Conjectured profits (twice the difference between $125,000 and $72,600) -	104,800
	242,000

Probable Number of Opium-smokers. Average Expenditure per Head.

7. The practice of opium-smoking appears to be confined principally to the Chinese, and to be much more prevalent among the Immigrant population than among the native-born Chinese. Among the Malay peasant cultivators the practice does not appear to prevail to any extent, but I am informed that it has spread to a certain extent among the Malays who work for wages on the tapioca estates. If the Malay factor in the problem is dismissed as inconsiderable, the question as to the number of the opium-smokers in the Settlement, and the expenditure per head which the practice involves, seems to admit of a roughly approximate answer. The Chinese adult male population, according to the census of 1881, was about 15,000. The proportion of opium-smokers has been estimated variously at 10, 15, and 20 per cent.; one employer of labour told me that it might possibly go as high as 25 per cent. in some plantations. Perhaps 20 per cent. may be a safe figure to take, and this may probably give margin enough to cover the indeterminable Malay factor above referred to. Twenty per cent. on the population of 15,000 would give 3,000 as the number of opium-smokers; and eighty dollars a year per head as their average annual rate of expenditure. This seemed to me at

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

MALACCA.

first to be a perfectly impossible answer to the question, but some of the Chinese employers of labour whom I have spoken with on the subject, do not appear to consider it in that light. They say that a common cooly's wages are ten dollars a month, and that he can live on three or four, and that the opium-smokers, as a rule, spend the balance of their wages on opium.

Effect of Opium-smoking.

8. All the Chinese employers of labour here with whom I have spoken on the subject regard the practice as injurious. The same opinion has been expressed to me by a gentleman who has had experience in the management of Chinese cooly labour in Sumatra. He states that the practice is prohibited on well managed estates there, except at the time of the New Year holidays, as it is found that it reduces the working power of the coolies, and that, when once the habit has been acquired, the man becomes useless as a labourer if he fails to get his accustomed supply.

Stamps.

9. The stamp revenue for the three years was as follows:—

	1879.	1880.	1881.
	$	$	$
Commercial - - -	5,031	4,888	5,450
Judicial - - - -	7,589	6,748	5,568
Total - -	12,620	11,636	11,018

Commercial Stamps.

10. The revenue from commercial stamps has not increased in anything like the proportion that would be indicated by the increase in the trade of the place, which rose from five-and-a-half millions of dollars in 1879 to seven-and-a-half millions in 1881: and it seems probable that the payment of stamp duties is largely and systematically evaded.

Judicial Stamps.

11. The falling off in the revenue from judicial stamps is partly attributable to alterations in the scale of fees for the Court of Requests introduced in 1879: but principally to the fact that in 1879 and 1880 the amounts received for fees on the administration of estates were exceptionally high.

Fines, Forfeitures, and Fees of Court.

12. The revenue under fines, forfeitures, and fees of court include the fines in land office cases, as stated above in paragraph 3. The following figures show the receipts during the three years :—

——	1879.	1880.	1881.
	$	$	$
Land Office cases - -	535	1,293	1,166
Other cases - - -	2,858	4,071	4,729
Total - -	3,393	5,364	5,895

Reimbursements.

13. Under the head "Reimbursements" are included the survey fees and other small items stated above under land revenue. The receipts in the three years were as follows :—

——	1879.	1880.	1881.
	$	$	$
Survey fees, &c. - -	9,025	4,128	3,390
Municipal contribution towards expenses for police - -	3,600	3,600	3,600
Other items - - -	604	512	1,007
Total - -	13,229	8,240	7,997

Miscellaneous Items of Revenue.

14. The receipts under the remaining heads of revenue, viz., rents exclusive of lands; port and harbour dues; postage; fees of office; sale of Government property; miscellaneous; and special— are not very considerable. The following figures give the aggregate amounts of the revenue under these heads during the three years under review :—

1879 - - - -	3,302
1880 - - - -	4,165
1881 - - - -	5,679

EXPENDITURE DETAILED.

Expenditure.

15. The expenditure of the Settlement for the years 1879, 1880, and 1881 is shown under the main heads in the Statement A,* and it will be given in full detail in the annual accounts prepared by the Auditor-General. The items do not, except in a few cases, appear to call for special remarks.

Establishments.

16. The following statement gives the amounts borne in the estimates for establishments for the years 1879 and 1881 respectively :—

	1879.	1881.
	$	$
Resident Councillor - - -	9,276	8,568
Land Office - - - - -	5,580	4,224
Treasury - - - - -	1,368	1,752
Public Works - - - -	8,100	7,716
Marine - - - - -	2,496	3,984
Post Office - - - - -	540	552
Registration - - - - -	840	900
Supreme Court - - - -	3,996	4,368
Magistrate - - - - -	5,856	6,156
Sheriff - - - - -	1,668	1,668
Ecclesiastical - - - -	3,444	3,540
Medical - - - - -	4,872	4,692
Police - - - - -	27,216	33,360
Gaols - - - - -	2,580	3,180
Total - - -	77,832	84,660

The figures show a net increase of $6,828. The increase under the head of police, $6,144, is the result of the reorganization of the force in 1880. The decrease under Resident Councillor and Land Office results from the consolidation of the offices of Lieutenant-Governor and Collector of Land Revenue, with a saving on the salary of the former office of $1,068, and the cessation of that of the latter, $3,396.

Lighthouses.

17. The large amount of the expenditure in 1880 for lighthouses ($8,587, as against $794 in 1879, and $1,446 in 1881) arose from the construction in 1880 of a new lighthouse on Pulau Undan.

* Not printed.

Public Works.

18. The variations of the amounts of the expenditure for the other heads are not considerable, except under works and buildings, and roads, streets and bridges: under these heads the expenditure was as follows:—

—	1879.	1880.	1881.
	$	$	$
Works and buildings - -	23,231	16,813	12,086
Roads, streets, and bridges -	20,294	27,680	22,394
Total - -	43,525	44,493	34,480

Works and Buildings.

19. The expenditure in 1881 for works and buildings included $3,675 for new police stations and barracks (*see* paragraph 55). The remainder consisted of minor works and alterations and current repairs.

Roads, Streets and Bridges.

20. The expenditure for roads, streets and bridges included $1,116 for renewing two bridges on the roads to Nialas and Ayer Panas; $890 for special repairs of the road from Pulau Sebang to Brisu; and $715 for clearing the courses of rivers (for drainage purposes). The remainder consisted of ordinary expenditure for the repair and maintenance of the roads.

Up-keep of Roads.

21. The roads were kept up by contract: but this system was found not to work satisfactorily, and it has now been abandoned, and the roads are kept up by working parties acting under the direct supervision of the department.

MUNICIPAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

22. The following figures give the amounts of the municipal revenue and expenditure for the last three years.

—	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	$	$
1879 - - - -	17,528	16,791
1880 - - - -	22,429	18,899
1881 - - - -	25,054	21,462

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

MALACCA.

Sources of Revenue. Area of Taxation.

23. The municipality levies an assessment at the rate of 10 per cent. on houses, and 5 per cent. on lands, within a radius of four miles from the centre of the town. Taxes are levied on vehicles, and fees are paid on licenses for carrying on certain "dangerous and offensive trades."

Area of Administration. Nature of Expenditure.

24. The revenue is expended in the up-keep of roads, &c., and other ordinary municipal functions within a radius of two miles from the centre of the town. A contribution of $3,600 is paid to the Government towards the maintenance of the police force.

Drainage and Sanitary Arrangements.

25. The drainage of portions of the town is defective, and the sanitary arrangements, in many respects, far from satisfactory. Investigations are now being made under the supervision of the municipal engineer of Singapore with a view of ascertaining the nature and extent of the improvements which it may be practicable to introduce.

LAND.

Leases borne on Rent Roll, 1881.

26. At the close of 1881, the rent roll* of the Settlement included leases as follows :—

Leases (current and expired) borne on Rent Roll, 1881.	Number.	Area.	Annual Rent.
			$
5 years - - -	132	642	333
10 years - - -	334	88,705	51,737
15 years - - -	7	15	6
20 years - - -	3,219	12,766	4,011
99 years - - -	138	319	224
999 years - - -	191	1,791	491
Certificates of Tenure in Perpetuity on payment of commuted tenths - - -	60	175	49
Total - -	4,081	104,413	56,851

Of the leases thus borne on the rent roll, the whole of those for five years and fifteen years, and a considerable portion of those

* The rent roll is now being checked by the duplicate leases, and a certain number of discrepancies have already been discovered; but the figures here given may be taken as approximately correct.

for ten years, had expired, as will be seen from the following statement:—

Expired Leases borne on Rent Roll, 1881.	Number.	Area.	Annual Rent.
			$
5 years - - -	132	642	333
10 years - - -	134	11,018	2,379
15 years - - -	7	15	6

Rents have been collected on the majority of the expired leases as though they were still current, but by degrees the cases will be taken up and arrangements made for the issue of new leases or the resumption of the lands.

Leases for Peasant Holdings.

27. The great bulk of the leases for 20 years, 15 years, and five years (whether reckoned numerically or according to the area of the lands held under them) and a considerable numerical* proportion of the 10-year leases, represent peasant holdings which were held, previously to the issue of the leases, by what is known in Malacca as "Prescriptive Right;" that is, on the condition of keeping the land in cultivation, and paying tenths on the produce, either in kind or in money, at rates of commutation fixed by the Government. Twenty years was the period for which it was the desire of the Indian Government, previously to the transfer in 1867, that such leases should be taken out; but the occupiers of the lands in some districts of the Settlement were averse to binding themselves to fixed payments for such a long period, and the shorter periods of 15, 10, and 5 years were adopted in some of these cases to induce the occupants to give the system a trial.

Issue of Short Leases discontinued.

28. No such short leases for peasant holdings have been issued since January, 1878,† From that date, the titles issued for such holdings have been either in the form of leases in perpetuity (999 years) or of certificates of tenure in perpetuity under the Ordinance XI. of 1876.

Certificates of Tenure under Ordinance No. XI. of 1876.

29. Certificates in this form appear to me to be the form of title best suited to peasant holdings. Among other advantages, they provide for the periodical re-assessment of

* Reckoning according to the area, the bulk of the 10-year leases may be stated to have been granted for tapioca cultivation. *See* paragraph 30.

† The 10-year leases issued in 1879, 1880, and 1881 (*see* Statement in paragraph 34) were for land required for tapioca cultivation; and the one 20-year lease issued in 1880 was for some land near town.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

MALACCA.

rents (on the basis of the value of the tenths) in a way which would seem to meet the view in this respect indicated in a recent despatch from the Secretary of State. If to the form, as it stands there could be added a clause to render the titles unmortgageable, and so prevent the broad margin between the Government rent and the rack-rent being absorbed by the money-lender, the form of title would, I think, be as well adapted to ensure the continuance of a prosperous peasant class as is likely to be devised. The advisability of some such provision has been suggested by the arguments of the Malays themselves in some districts of the country, who, in certain instances, have objected to take out written titles to their lands, on any terms, on the very grounds that as long as they have no papers they have nothing to mortgage; and that if they had written titles they would be sure to raise money on them sooner or later, and that so their patrimony would at last find its way into the hands of the Chitty and the Chinaman.

Ten-Year Leases for Tapioca Cultivation.

30. The bulk of the land held under 10-year leases (*see* note above to paragraph 27) has been granted during the last 15 or 16 years for tapioca cultivation. Previously to 1879, only 25 cents an acre was charged under such leases, but from that date, 75 cents an acre has been charged. It is reckoned that land occupied for this description of cultivation is made, as a rule, to produce three crops in the 10 years,—the successive crops being valued at $60, $45, and $30 per acre respectively. The value of the crops for the 10 years may, therefore, be estimated at $135; and this would give $13 50 as the value of the tenths, representing an annual charge of $1 35. The rent of 75 cents, therefore, may be considered to be very moderate. A premium of 50 cents per acre has been charged on these leases, and also survey fees, which have ranged from 15 to 40 cents per acre.

Tapioca Land exhausted after Three Crops.

31. After three crops of tapioca have been taken off the ground, the lands are practically exhausted, and must be allowed to revert to jungle for 20 or 30 years before they can be profitably brought again under similar cultivation.

Timber planting on exhausted Land.

31. If after the lands are abandoned they could be systematically planted with valuable timber trees, instead of being allowed to produce such trees or bushes as may happen to spring up (with a chance of *lalang* getting hold of the ground to the exclusion of any other growth), it would be doubtless of great

future advantage, and I have brought this proposal to the notice of the officer who is now engaged in an inspection of the forest lands of the Settlement.

Issue of Tapioca Leases discontinued.

33. No further leases of lands for tapioca cultivation are now being made, except in certain cases where the applications have been of long standing.

Leases issued, 1879 *to* 1881.

34. The following statement gives particulars of the leases issued during the last three years :—

Period.	1879.		1880.		1881.	
	Number.	Area.	Number.	Area.	Number.	Area.
10 years - -	35	17,602	103	28,966	20	13,576
20 years - -	—	—	1	6	—	—
99 years - -	1	1	1	1	4	6
999 years - -	62	621	15	208	13	246
	98	18,224	120	29,181	37	13,828

In consequence, however, of defects on the surveys, a portion of the leases issued in these and previous years will have to be recalled, the lands re-surveyed, and fresh leases issued.

Peasant Holdings and Tapioca Encroachments.

35. The land question in Malacca as it presented itself to me when I first acted as Lieutenant-Governor of the Settlement in 1870, was in the main a question as how to deal satisfactorily with the lands already held by, or to be granted to, the Malay peasantry. Up to that time, and indeed up to a quite recent period, the Malays were not practically hindered from clearing the jungle in the moderate quantities required for their padi fields and gardens; and but for the introduction of tapioca cultivation, this system of *laisser faire* might have been allowed to continue, not only without disadvantage, but with distinct benefit to the Settlement and the inhabitants. But with the introduction of tapioca the system became liable to great abuse. The Chinese manufacturers supplied the Malays with funds, and the Malays began, without authority, to clear the forests in all directions, and to plant tapioca, which they afterwards sold to the manufacturers on the manufacturers' terms. This state of things it was, of course, necessary to put a stop to, and by dint of stringent notices and summary prosecutions, I believe that it may now be said that it

has been put a stop to. The tapioca encroachments have now, to a great extent, been dealt with, and the old question relating to the Malay peasantry has once more come to the front. My own view as to how it should be dealt with has never varied: I would give to all the existing occupiers (whether holding by written titles or by short leases) certificates in perpetuity under the Ordinance XI. of 1876;* and I would give fresh land to *bonâ fide* applicants, to the extent of, say, four or five acres, on similar terms. I would charge rent at, say, 40 cents an acre, but charge *nothing* for premium or survey fees, If this system were adopted and a sufficient staff of surveyors appointed to carry out the work, the settlement of the country would, I think, be effected without difficulty, and a very considerable permanent revenue added to the rent roll.

"*Prescriptive Right*" *Lands.*

36. At present, a large extent of cultivated land is held under prescriptive right, and though, in regard to padi lands, there is no difficulty in collecting the value of the Government tenths, as regards garden lands, it will be impossible to collect anything like the full value without resorting to a system of farming out the tenths, to which there are grave objections.

Padi Tenths. Cattle Disease.

37. With regard to the revenue from tenths on padi, it is to be feared that the receipts this year will show a great falling off in consequence of the losses of cattle last year from an epidemic disease which carried off nearly 5,000 buffaloes and over 600 bullocks.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

Total Declared Values.

38. The following figures give the declared values of the imports and exports of the last three years, and also of 1868—the first year after the transfer of the Colony:—

	Imports.	Exports.
	$	$
1868 - - - -	2,280,744	1,693,392
1879 - - - -	2,718,343	2,770,123
1880 - - - -	3,317,848	3,634,640
1881 - - - -	3,664,230	3,919,431

* The form of certificates was prepared by me in 1875 for this very purpose.

Principal Articles.

39. The following figures show the variations in the several years of some of the principal articles:—

—		1868.	1879.	1880.	1881.
Padi and Rice	Imports	612,645	525,963	586,688	651,263
	Exports	167,996	197,208	197,799	190,668
Tapioca - -	Imports	—	14,175	46,495	46,884
	Exports	118,579	521,832	844,238	925,748
Tin - -	Imports	487,139	1,140,943	1,164,335	1,512,164
	Exports	700,000	1,058,839	1,340,655	1,798,909
Opium - -	Imports	233,685	196,000	179,300	185,575
	Exports	159,995	162,000	150,150	146,085
Specie - -	Imports	678,150	572,255	1,003,059	908,680
	Exports	391,092	487,131	735,740	586,576

Native Craft.

40. On reference to the Statement G*, it will be observed that the departures of native craft considerably exceed the arrivals. This results from the irregularity with which this class of vessels report their arrivals. The departures are necessarily reported, as the vessels must have port clearance to exhibit at the ports to which they are bound.

SHIPPING.

Arrivals and Departures.

41. The following statement gives the tonnage of the vessels which entered and cleared at the port of Malacca in 1879, 1880, 1881, and also in 1868 (the first year after the transfer), and the names of the principal places from and for which the vessels arrived and sailed. The Statement G*, annexed, gives similar information in regard to 1881, but shows also the number and tonnage of the different classes of vessels.

—	1868.		1879.		1880.		1881.	
	Arrivals.	Departures.	Arrivals.	Departures.	Arrivals.	Departures.	Arrivals.	Departures.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Singapore - -	39,614	37,980	94,565	76,912	84,111	91,425	103,280	95,152
Penang - -	22,101	20,685	33,716	46,657	27,390	32,689	26,484	39,143
†Sungei Ujong -	4,155	6,143	19,109	24,660	26,292	26,605	5,068	5,668
†Selangor - -							27,375	26,957
†Perak - -							46	116
Sumatra - -	5,106	5,937	9,914	10,129	7,255	6,756	3,277	3,851
‡Calcutta - -	2,121	1,082	23,057	24,084	25,735	18,608	31,318	28,452
Other places - -	3,767	8,246	2,145	1,073	6,611	2,930	1,211	30
	76,864	80,073	182,506	183,515	177,394	179,013	198,059	199,369

* Not printed.

† The figures for 1868 and for 1879 and 1880 are those for the "Malay Peninsula East and West," but the trade appears to have been nearly entirely with the three States named.

‡ The Calcutta figures in 1879, 1880, 1881 represent the arrivals and departures of the British India Steam Navigation Company's steamers.

POST OFFICE.

Letters and Money Orders.

42. The business of the post office, so far as the receipt and despatch of letters is concerned, has expanded considerably in the course of the three years, as the following figures will show :—

——	1879.	1880.	1881.
Letters, &c., received - -	35,751	40,716	47,091
Letters, &c., despatched -	26,208	29,124	34,114
	$	$	$
Money Orders issued - -	2,204	2,129	2,716
Money Orders paid - -	3,256	1,243	1,022

The money order business, it will be seen, has been nearly stationary, and is of small amount.

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE.

Police Magistrate's Cases.

43. The following statement shows the number of prisoners tried by the police magistrate in the three years :—

——	1879.	1880.	1881.
Committed to the Supreme Court	28	22	39
Convicted and punished - -	1,267	1,640	1,168
Ordered to find security -	99	174	114
Discharged - - -	1,086	998	1,011
Not decided - - -	22	58	11
Total - -	2,502	2,892	2,343

Comparison with the other Settlements.

44. In comparison with the other Settlements, the proportion of crime to the population, as tested by the magistrate's returns, is very low, as will be seen from the following figures for 1880,

which are the latest (for the other two Settlements) that I have before me —

—	Singapore Population.	Penang Population.	Malacca Population.
	139,000	190,000	93,000
Committed to the Supreme Court	197	242	22
Convicted and punished - -	8,216	8,372	1,640
Ordered to find security - -	552	804	174
Discharged - - -	3,443	8,508	998
Not decided - - -	57	180	58
Total - -	12,375	18,106	2,892

Supreme Court, Criminal Side.

45. The cases which came up for trial in 1881 before the Supreme Court were 42: but a *Nolle Prosequi* was entered in four. Of the prisoners in the remaining cases, 20 were convicted, and 18 acquitted.

The following statement shows the offences and punishments:—

—	Rigorous Imprison-ment.	Simple Imprison-ment.	Fine.	Total.
Homicide - -	2	—	—	2
Attempt to murder -	1	—	—	1
Grievous hurt - -	4	—	—	4
Other offences against person - -	—	1	2	3
Robbery with violence -	2	—	—	2
House-breaking - -	8	—	—	8
Total - -	17	1	2	20

Supreme Court, Civil Side.

46. On the civil side of the Supreme Court, there were 32 cases in dependence at the beginning of the year, and the same number at the end. Ninety-seven (97) actions were commenced for debt or damages to the extent of $29,000: 22 cases were settled without trial, and 75 cases adjudicated with debt or damages decreed to the extent of $16,000.

Bankruptcy.

47. The only proceedings in bankruptcy were the issue of four debtors' summonses.

Probate and Administration.

48. In the Ecclesiastical Division of the Supreme Court, letters of administration or probate were granted for estates to the value of $160,000.

Court of Requests.

49. In the Court of Requests there were 837 cases involving debt or damages to the amount of $11,000. These were inclusive of 60 cases remaining over from 1880. Ninety (90) cases remained outstanding at the close of 1881.

Disadvantages of the unrestricted recognition of the Credit System.

50. The amount of litigation shown by these figures seems to indicate the existence of a widely extended habit of indebtedness among certain classes of the community; and it appears to be a question deserving careful consideration whether such a state of things does not possibly point to something unsuitable in the English law relating to debt, as at present administered, to the circumstances of a primitive community. The professional money-lender, it may be argued, and the pushing shop-keeper or pedlar are encouraged in the processes by which they get people into their debt by the facilities for ultimate recovery which our system provides. If the facilities for recovery were less, there would be less eagerness to lend and to sell on credit, with this principal result that the classes who now go beyond their means would have to adopt the wholesome course of waiting for the things which they would like to have, or to do, till they could afford to pay for them. The habit of indebtedness is not the only evil result of the credit system as applied to a community such as this. Other evils are inherent on the litigation which it gives rise to, attended as such litigation so frequently is with fraud and perjury and the oppression that contrives to keep itself just on the safe side of the law. A trenchant statute of limitations, a stringent usury law, and a strict limitation of the system of "Payment by Instalments," are measures which suggest themselves as being calculated to work in the right direction.

POLICE.

Number and Distribution.

51. The police force of the Settlement consists of the superintendent, 3 inspectors, 6 sergeants, 33 corporals, and 260 constables The force is distributed at 8 stations within the four-mile radius from the centre of the town, and 21 stations in the country districts.

Composition of the Force.

52. The force is recruited principally from the Malay population of the place. Malays constitute more than nine-tenths of the whole, according to the last returns. There are no Europeans in the force below the rank of inspector; and there are no Sikhs.

Addition to Force on removal of Troops.

53. In July the force received an addition (included in the above numbers) of 4 corporals and 20 constables, consequent on the removal, in April, of the detachment of troops which had been previously stationed at the Settlement.

Enlistments, Discharges, &c.

54. Including those required to make up the above additional strength, there were 99 enlistments during the year. Seventeen constables resigned during the year; 6 were discharged on account of illness; 1 was pensioned; 2 deserted; and 14 were dismissed for misconduct, of whom 8 were recruits of under 1 year's service.

New Police Stations, &c.

55. One police station, at Durian Tunggal, was rebuilt during the year. The renewal of the station and barracks at Machap, the barracks at Chin Chin, and the inspector's quarters at Kwala Kessang, were commenced, but not completed till after the close of the year.

Coroner's Inquests.

56. The superintendent of police, in his capacity of coroner, held 52 inquests in the course of the year, resulting in verdicts as follows:—

Murder - - - - -	5
Homicide - - - - -	1
Felo de se - - - - -	9
Accidental death - - - -	13
Natural causes - - - -	20
Open verdicts - - - -	4

In two of five "murder" cases, verdicts of "homicide not amounting to murder" were given on trial of the cases before the Supreme Court. In the other cases the perpetrators escaped justice.

PRISONS.

Criminal Prison.

57. The criminal prison returns strengthen the view as to the comparative freedom from crime which the Settlement presents. Out of 1,168 prisoners sentenced by the magistrate, and 20

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS. — MALACCA.

sentenced by the Supreme Court, only 152 were committed to prison, including those committed for non-payment of fines, the remainder being punished by fine only. The returns give the following particulars as to the durations of the sentences of imprisonment:—

One month and under	66
One to two months	22
Two to three months	22
Three to six months	25
Six months to one year	8
Two years	2
Four years	2
Six years	1
Seven years	2
Ten years	2
	152

Long-sentence Prisoners transferred to Singapore.

58. All the long-sentence prisoners, to the number of 41, who were confined in the gaol at the time, were transferred to Singapore in November 1881, and long-sentence prisoners who are now from time to time committed to the prison are similarly transferred to Singapore by the first convenient opportunity; the prison being used as a place of detention for short-sentence prisoners only, that is, for prisoners whose sentences of imprisonment do not exceed six months.

Number of Prisoners.

59. Including those who remained from the previous year, 220 prisoners were confined in the prison in the course of the year; giving a daily average of about 60. The number on the 31st December 1881, was 23.

Health.

60. The daily average number of sick in hospital was 5·25. There were no deaths on the criminal side, but one prisoner awaiting trial and one lunatic under detention died in the civil prison.

Civil Prison Commitments.

61. The civil prison returns show commitments to the number of 176 in the course of the year, viz.:—

For safe custody	110
For trial	29
Simple imprisonment	9
Debtors	15
Lunatics	13
	176

Staff.

62. The prison (criminal and civil) is conducted by a staff consisting of the superintendent, one European warder, one sub-warder, and six native warders.

CHINESE AND MALAY SOCIETIES.

Number of Chinese Societies.

63. There are five registered Chinese societies in Malacca, and the numbers borne on the registers at the close of the three years under review were as follows:—

——	1879.	1880.	1881.
Ghee Hin - - -	1,380	1,778	2,549
Do., Macao - - -	282	282	344
Ghee Boo - - -	556	556	581
Hock Beng - - -	1,126	1,126	1,802
Hye San - - -	156	357	440

The increases in the numbers do not, I understand, represent increases of the actual members of the societies to an equal extent. The names of new members are, it appears, added to the registers kept in the Kongsi houses, but no attempt is made to strike off the names of those who die or leave the country, or otherwise cease to become members. The societies have given no trouble during the past year, and it is to be hoped that they are more and more taking the position of inoffensive associations for mutual support and assistance.

The Red Flag and White Flag Societies.

64. The "Red Flag" and "White Flag" societies, which have sprung up among the Malays comparatively recently, stand on quite a different footing to the Chinese societies. They have no root in old established customs or prejudices; they serve no useful purposes; and they lead to endless quarrels and litigations, supported, in a great number of cases, by manufactured and partisan evidence on both sides. By an Ordinance recently passed, No. IV. of 1882, these societies have been made illegal, and I feel but little doubt but that, in this Settlement at any rate, discouraged as they are already by the quiet and respectable people among the Malays and other Mohamedan classes, the

societies will, in a very short time, disappear and be forgotten The societies have never been recognised or allowed to register themselves under the Ordinance IX. of 1869.

EDUCATION.

Numbers of Scholars.

65. The numbers of scholars attending the schools of the Settlement (average enrolment) during the three years were as follows:—

—	1879.	1880.	1881.
High School - - Boys	209	242	299
French Mission Schools—			
St. Francis - Boys	171	173	165
The Convent - Girls	70	80	100
Portuguese Mission Schools—			
Trankerah - - Boys	44	38	35
Bandar Ilir - Boys	43	37	40
Bandar Ilir - Girls	34	34	33
Malacca Girls' School - Girls	29	25	18
Vernacular Schools - Boys	582	637	636

Vernacular Schools.

66. One vernacular school was closed in 1881, and three new ones were opened. The total number in operation at the close of 1881 was 21.

HOSPITALS.

Number of Cases.

67. The following figures show the numbers of patients treated in the hospitals of the Settlement in 1881:—

—	General Hospital.	Lock Hospital.	Pauper Hospital.	Gaol Hospital.	Leper Hospital	Small-pox Hospital.	Total.
Remained from 1880 - - -	2	2	59	4	16	—	83
Admitted in 1881 - - -	288	95	677	94	1	—	1,155
	290	97	736	98	17	—	1,238
Discharged - -	276	96	485	96	1	—	954
Absconded - - - -	—	—	3	—	—	—	3
Transferred - -	—	—	2	—	10	—	12
Died - - - - -	5	—	125	1	6	—	137
	281	96	615	97	17	—	1,106
Remained at the close of 1881 -	9	1	121	1	—	—	132

Diseases.

68. The principal diseases treated in the pauper hospital were as follows:—

	Admissions.	Discharges.	Deaths.
Ague	79	80	—
Rheumatism	43	42	—
Syphilis, &c.	33	33	—
Phthisis	27	13	16
Sloughing Phagedœna	72	38	39
Anœmia	23	18	3
General Dropsy	61	31	28
Beri-Beri	49	25	4
Paralysis	22	5	5
Dysentery	11	3	7
Diarrhœa	28	16	12
Abscess	9	9	—
Ulcer	155	124	—
General Debility	15	7	7
Other Diseases	50	41	4
Total	677	485	125

Increase of Numbers in Pauper Hospital.

69. The numbers in the hospital, which at the beginning of the year were only 59, amounted on the 31st December 1881 to 121; and at the close of last month they had further increased to 168. The present hospital accommodation is insufficient for such numbers, and temporary arrangements are being made to provide additional space. Permanent arrangements for providing sufficient accommodation, including probably the establishment of district hospitals, are also now under the consideration of the Government.

Vaccination.

70. The Vaccination returns for the three years give the following results:—

	Number of Cases.	Successful Cases.
1879	1,400	1,052
1880	1,870	1,561
1881	1,669	1,117

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

MALACCA.

POPULATION.

Census, 1871, 1881.

71. According to the returns of the census taken on the 2nd April 1871, and that taken on the 3rd of April, 1881, the population of the Settlement at the two dates respectively were as shown in the following statement:—

Nationalities.	Population, 1871.			Population, 1881.		
	Males.	Females.	Totals.	Males.	Females.	Totals.
Malays - -	28,102	29,372	57,474	32,784	34,729	67,513
Chinese - -	9,850	3,606	13,456	15,721	4,020	19,741
Eurasians - -	1,056	1,169	2,225	1,075	1,138	2,213
Tamils - -	1,556	1,318	2,874	1,062	723	1,785
Other Nationalities	1,372	355	1,727	1,417	910	2,327
Total -	41,936	35,820	77,756	52,059	41,520	93,579

Births and Deaths.

72. The births and deaths registered in 1881, were as follows:—

Nationalities.	Births, 1881.			Deaths, 1881.		
	Males.	Females.	Totals.	Males.	Females.	Totals.
Malays - -	1,007	874	1,881	741	663	1,404
Chinese - -	53	70	123	480	98	578
Eurasians - -	31	30	61	42	34	76
Tamils - -	5	6	11	39	14	53
Other Nationalities	17	7	24	24	10	34
Total -	1,113	987	2,100	1,326	819	2,145

Low Birth-rate, Chinese and Tamils.

73. The birth-rate among the Malays, as registered, is nearly 6½ per cent. on the female population; and if this is taken as the standard, it would seem to show that among the Chinese and Tamils either the births are at an exceptionable low rate, or else that, in a considerable proportion of cases, the births are not registered.

Immigration and Emigration.

74. There are no means of ascertaining the number of immigrants and emigrants into and from the Settlement. Steamers arrive continually from Singapore on the one side, and from Penang and the Native States on the other, crowded with native passengers, principally Chinese, but how many of them land at Malacca, and how many of such passengers embark at Malacca, there is nothing to show. It is probable, however, that on the balance the Settlement receives a very considerable addition yearly to its population in this way.

C. J. IRVING,
Resident Councillor.

Malacca, 19th June, 1882.

MAURITIUS.

No. 15.

Lieutenant-Governor F. NAPIER BROOME, C.M.G., to the Right Hon. the EARL OF KIMBERLEY.

Government House, Mauritius,
September 25, 1882.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the annual Blue Book of the Colony for the year 1881. My detailed report is also enclosed.

2. The year 1881 was fairly, if not exuberantly, prosperous, both for the people and the Government of this Colony. The public revenue was, it is true, slightly lower than that of the previous twelve months. But expenditure was carefully kept down, and the Colonial accounts showed a surplus of Rs. 213,734.

2. No hurricane visited Mauritius during last year, and the cane crop of 1881 to 1882 was of average excellence, the quantity of sugar manufactured having been a little less than the out-turn of the preceding season. The export and import trade exceeded by a few thousand rupees the returns of 1880.

3. For the first time for forty years, there was no introduction of coolie labour from India.

4. One of the principal features of the year was the large amount of legislative work done by the Council of Government. Measures were passed into law providing for the reforestation of the island, by the conservation of the remaining Crown forests, and by the acquisition of such other forest lands, as it might be

MAURITIUS.

deemed necessary to purchase in the public interest. Under these measures, a Woods and Forests Board, a Forests Lands Purchase Commission, and an extensive Forest Department have been organised, and are now at work.

5. Among other important legislation, laws were passed which had for their object the good government of the island of Rodrigues (which I visited in the month of July) and of the other dependencies; an improved management and discipline of the Colonial gaols; a re-organisation of the constitution and procedure of the Supreme Court; the establishment of a Mortgage Office and Savings Bank at the Seychelles; the abolition of the old standing and pernicious system of attachments to salaries; the settlement of the pensions of Civil Servants; and the regulation of the island fisheries. In addition to these Ordinances, some thirty other measures, of more or less importance, were enacted; and it may be mentioned that, so far, all of them have received the approval of Her Majesty, with the exception of an Ordinance consolidating the municipal loans. This measure has been allowed in principle, but has been referred back to the Colony on some points of financial detail.

6. In addition to the Ordinance actually passed, several enactments of much consequence were drafted, introduced into the Council of Government, and proceeded with up to a certain stage. Among these were a bankruptcy law, a law reorganising the Curatelle, and laws regarding mountain and river reservoirs, irrigation, and judicial sales of land. The consideration of these measures, has since been continued, and the Bankruptcy and Curatelle laws have passed the Council.

7. It may also be noted that the reorganisation of the district magistracies, the construction of a central prison on the cellular plan, and the reform of the prison service of the Colony by the introduction of a superior class of head warders from England, each of which projects had been long pending, were finally resolved upon and settled, and that a new code of regulations for primary Schools receiving grants-in-aid, which had been under consideration for three years, was passed by the Council of Education. Squatting on the Crown lands, which had proved an extensive evil in former years, was brought to an end by the completion of a careful inquiry into the whole matter, by the issue of regular leases of allotments to the squatters, and, in a few cases, by their ejection. Only 14 squatters remained at the close of the year, and they have since been got rid of. A code of regulations for the transaction of public business in the several departments of the Colonial Government, framed by me, received your Lordship's approval, as did also other proposals of departmental reform and reorganisation.

8. The land and sea defence of the Colony was fully inquired into, and reported upon to Her Majesty's Government. In this matter I had the advantage of the assistance of the eminent soldier and administrator Colonel (now Major-General) Gordon, C.B., R.E.

9. The year 1881 was the census year of Mauritius, as of the Empire in general, and what appears to have been a full and accurate enumeration of the people was made on the 3rd of April. During the cool season, a very successful exhibition was held in the saloons of Government House, Port Louis, which I lent for the occasion

10. Altogether, 1881 was a busy year in the councils and public departments of this Government, and I venture to hope that at least some of the work accomplished will bear good fruit.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. (Signed) F. NAPIER BROOME,
The Earl of Kimberley, Lieutenant-Governor.
&c. &c.

REPORT on the BLUE BOOK of MAURITIUS for 1881.

I.—*Taxation.*

The following were the only changes made in taxes:—

a. The import duties on opium were raised to—
Rs. 20 per kilogram on crude opium;
„ 40 „ „ refined opium.

b. The license duty for the sale of opium was increased to Rs. 100 per half year.

c. The import duties on wines in bottles were reduced as follows:—
To one rupee per dozen bottles not exceeding one litre each; and to half a rupee per dozen bottles not exceeding half a litre each.

II.—*Revenue and Expenditure of the Colony.*

The revenue of 1881 amounted to Rs. 7,813,910, Rs. 7,178 less than that of 1880. The aggregate expenditure was Rs. 7,600,176,; Rs. 26,216 more than that of the previous year. The financial transactions of the year left a surplus of Rs. 213,734.

III.—*Financial condition of the Municipal Corporation of Port Louis.*

	Rs.	c.
Balance on hand on 1st January 1881 -	56,540	61
Receipts during 1881 - - -	678,150	63
	734,691	24
Payments during 1881 - - -	692,339	84
Balance on hand on 31st December 1881	42,351	40

MAURITIUS.

Debenture Debt of the Municipal Corporation of Port Louis.

When due.	Principal.	Interest.	Total.
	£	£	£
1882 - - - -	—	8,040	8,040
1883 - - - -	—	8,040	8,040
1884 - - - -	21,840	7,658	29,498
1885 - - - -	36,700	5,227	41,927
1886 - - - -	13,080	3,714	16,794
1887 - - - -	10,760	2,839	13,599
1888 - - - -	30,200	1,368	31,568
1889 - - - -	9,240	115	9,355
Total - -	121,820	37,001	158,821

Amount of sinking fund on the 31st December 1881, Rs. 223,400.

IV.—*Military Expenditure.*

The military contribution paid by the Colony in 1881 amounted to Rs. 165,910. The troops in the Colony at the end of the year were as follows:—

Staff - - - - -	10
Artillery - - - -	98
Infantry - - - -	251
Engineers - - - -	7
Army Service Corps - - -	2
„ Hospital Corps - - -	11
	379

V.—*Imports and Exports.*

Exclusive of specie and bullion, the imports amounted to Rs. 20,299,712, and the exports to Rs. 34,776,608, showing an increase of Rs. 152,854 in imports and of Rs. 336,378 in exports.

Exports of sugar increased to the amount of 2,207,435 kilograms:—

	Kilograms.
1881 - - - -	112,418,113
1880 - - - -	110,210,678
Difference - -	2,207,435

The value of the sugar exported also shows an increase:—

	Rs.
1881 - - - -	31,846,294
1880 - - - -	30,492,138
Increase - - -	1,354,156

VI.—*Shipping.*

Under this head the year 1881 shows the following differences, compared with 1880:—

—	1880.	1881.	—
	Tons.	Tons.	
Inwards - -	269,505	273,934	Increase - - 4,429
Outwards - -	272,300	270,233	Decrease - - 2,067

VII.—*Assets and Liabilities.*

On the 31st of December 1881, the assets of the Colony exceeded its liabilities (exclusive of railway debts) by Rs. 2,181,938.

VIII.—*Railway Debts.*

The railway debts stood as follows:—

	£
a.—Loan payable November 1882 -	130,100
b.—Loan payable November 1895, 1896	254,300
* *c.*—Savanne Railway loan - -	99,000
* *d.*—Moka Railway loan - -	105,000
* *e.*—Loan under Ord. 10 of 1879 -	245,500
Total - - -	833,900

IX.—*Currency.*

The Commissioners of Currency had notes in circulation to the value of Rs. 3,000,475.

Their assets stood as follows:—

	Rs.
a.—Specie reserve - -	1,456,225
b.—Invested in England - -	1,762,257
	3,218,482

X.—*Savings Bank.*

The deposits of 1881 amounted to Rs. 1,063,288, or Rs. 95,817 more than those of 1880. The number of depositors was also larger; it amounted on the 31st December 1881 to 14,548; 924 more than at the close of the previous year. The total amount due to depositors, including interest, was Rs. 2,836,271, the largest amount ever held by the Bank until then. It exceeded the amount which stood to the credit of depositors at the end of 1880 by Rs. 169,696. Of the funds in the Bank more than half (namely, Rs. 1,457,936) belonged to Indians.

* Payable by annual drawings.

XI.—*Population.*

The estimated population on 31st December 1881 was as follows:—

Males - - - -	207,437
Females - - - -	151,982
Total - - -	359,419

which is 549 less than the estimated population at the end of 1880.

In births there was a decrease of 349; and in deaths an increase of 603.

The birth rate in the total population was 36·2 per 1,000, the death rate 29·8 per 1,000.

As compared with 1880, the death rate shows an increase of 1·7 per 1,000.

There was a slight decrease in still births, namely:—from 1,082 in 1880 to 1,020 in 1881.

Suicides had fallen from 52 in 1870 to 33 in 1880, but they rose to 51 in 1881.

XII.—*Immigration.*

No immigrants were introduced in 1881.

The departures of 1881 were as follows:—

——	Males.	Females.	Total.
Immigrants { Adults - -	1,043	244	1,287
Immigrants { Children - -	18	14	32
Descendants of immigrants -	119	116	235
Total - -	1,180	374	1,554

The departures of the previous year amounted to 2,345.

To this decrease in departures the Protector of Immigrants refers in the following terms in his annual Report:—

"The decrease in the departures, as well as in the proportion "of females who leave Mauritius, are favourable features, and "point to the fact that the Indian prefers living here to returning "to his own country."

XIII.—*Education.*

There were 40 Government schools and 53 aided schools at the end of 1881. The average attendance was 3,714 in the former and 3,062 in the latter. The cost to Government per pupil was as follows:—

	Rs.
In the Government schools - -	26·95
In the aided schools - -	14·21

Of the aided schools 38 were under Roman Catholic managers, 13 under Church of England managers, and 2 under Presbyterian managers.

The numbers of pupils in the Royal College and the Royal College Schools in 1880 and 1881 were as follows:—

	1880.	1881.
Royal College - - - - -	189	157
„ „ School, Curepipe - - -	68	106
„ „ Port Louis - - - -	183	187
Totals - - - - -	440	450

The total amount disbursed for educational purposes in 1881 was Rs. 343,343, Rs. 27, 613 more than in 1880.

XIV.—*Judicial Statistics.*

The total number of offences reported to the police or to the magistrates was 32,472; 380 less than in 1880.

The total number of persons prosecuted in 1881 was 23,745; 535 less than in 1880.

The offences tried were as follows:—

Murder or attempt at murder - -	12
Other offences against the person - -	1,603
Offences against property - - -	2,668
Miscellaneous offences - - -	15,195

Ten persons were sentenced to death. The sentences were carried out in two cases; in the others the sentences were commuted to imprisonment.

XV.—*Gaols.*

The total number of persons committed in 1881 was 9,539; 18 less than in 1880.

The sentences under which they were committed were as follows:—

(1.) Death - - - -	10
(2.) Five years' imprisonment, or more -	26
(3.) Not less than one year and less than five years - - - -	77
(4.) More than three months and less than one year - - - -	689
(5.) Three months or less - - -	4,131

MAURITIUS.

The above-mentioned committals include 906 for vagrancy, aud 74 removals to the juvenile reformatory.

XVI.—*Crown Lands.*

Upwards of 8 miles of Crown land boundaries, and 18 miles of mountain reserve boundaries, were opened in 1881. The surveys led to the addition of 400 arpents of land to the Crown domain. The value of lands sold amounted to Rs. 1,833. The amount of rent realized was Rs. 44,556.

Squatting on Crown lands, which, a few years before, had existed extensively, was virtually brought to an end at the close of 1881, when there only remained 14 squatters. Their holdings have since been placed under regular leases.

XVII.—*Forests, and Botanical Gardens.*

Towards the conservation and restoration of forests important action was taken in 1881. Under legislative sanction, a Forest Department was organised ; a large tract of land, comprising most of the remaining forests and the sources of the principal rivers of the Colony, was brought by proclamation under stricter supervision ; and purchasing power was given to Government in reference to those tracts which it is now recognised that Government should hold as reserves, and which had previously been alienated.

The Botanical Gardens at Pamplemousses and Curepipe proved no less useful than in former years ; upwards of 200,000 plants were propagated and issued from the former ; and nearly 50,000 from the latter.

The number of visitors at the gardens of Pamplemousses rose from 86,551 in 1880 to 90,152.

XVIII.—*Railways.*

The gross receipts of the railways amounted in 1881 to Rs. 1,470,198 ; Rs. 20,313 less than in 1880. The expenditure was Rs. 1,019,260 ; Rs. 3,239 less than during the previous year.

The net receipts showed a slight decrease :—

	Rs.
1880 - - - -	467,831
1881 - - - -	450,948
Decrease - -	16,883

XIX.—*Post Office and Telegraphs.*

The gross revenue of the Post Office increased from Rs. 67,135 in 1880 to Rs. 69,636 in 1881.

The letters, post-cards, and newspapers which passed through the office were as follows:—

	Letters.	Post-cards.	Newspapers.
1880 - - - -	720,652	8,231	718,835
1881 - - - -	767,940	8,929	751,283
Increase - - -	47,288	698	32,448

The postal money order business showed an increase of Rs. 16,240:—

	Rs.
1880 - - - -	68,869
1881 - - - -	85,109

The gross revenue of the telegraph branch amounted to Rs. 13,424, showing an increase of Rs. 1,760 over the previous year The net revenue was Rs. 10,562; Rs. 1,566 more than in 1880.

XX.—*Observatory.*

The following are the most noteworthy results shown by the annual report of Dr. C. Meldrum, the able Director of the Royal Alfred Observatory.

The mean temperature for the year 1881 was 73°·6, against a mean of 74°·1 for the period 1875–81. The highest temperature (85°·6) occurred on the 22nd March, and the lowest (57°·5) on the 15th August.

The rainfall was 45·32 inches, against 34·03 in 1880, and against an average of 47·84 inches in the seven years 1875–81.

No hurricane visited the Colony in the course of the year; but one which did much damage at Réunion passed at a short distance north of Mauritius on the morning of the 21st January.

Observations at sea have been collected and carefully registered by Dr. Meldrum, especially with reference to hurricanes; and synoptic charts have been prepared by him showing the state of the winds and weather in the Indian Ocean, at noon, on each day on which a tropical cyclone existed.

Sun-spots were also carefully observed and photographed by him whenever the state of the weather permitted it.

XXI.—*Legislation.*

Forty-three Ordinances were passed in 1881; the most important of which were the following:—

No. 1. To prevent the undue destruction of timber.

No. 3. To amend the law relating to master and servant, and the maintenance of public order in Rodrigues and certain of the lesser dependencies of Mauritius.

MAURITIUS.

No. 9. To amend the law as to the custody, discipline, and employment of persons detained in the prisons and reformatory schools of this Colony.

No. 10. To make better provision for the conservation, restoration and management of Woods and Forests.

No. 12. To regulate the emigration of Indian Immigrants and liberated Africans.

No. 14. To provide for the better administration of justice.

No. 15. To amend the Law of Evidence.

No. 24. To amend the laws relating to Customs.

No. 26. To regulate the appointment and the service of pilots.

No. 28. To establish a separate Mortgage or Hypothec Office at Port Victoria, in the Island of Mahé one of the Seychelles Islands.

No. 29. To establish a savings bank at Victoria, in the Island of Mahé, one of the Seychelles Islands.

No. 30. To regulate pensions in respect of offices held in the Civil Service of the Colony.

No. 32. To regulate the attachment of salaries generally and the attachment of Government and Municipal pensions, and of sums due by the Government, the Municipality of Port Louis, and the War Department in respect of contracts.

No. 33. To authorise the conversion of the Municipal loans.

No. 34. To transfer to the Chief Medical Officer all the powers and duties of the Poor Law Commissioner in regard to Public Hospitals and Dispensaries.

No. 39. To prevent the introduction and spread of cattle diseases.

No. 40. To abolish capital punishment in certain cases.

No. 42. To amend and consolidate the laws on fisheries.

XXII.—*Dependencies.*

(*a.*) *Seychelles and Rodrigues.*

The Seychelles Blue Book Report, and the report of the Civil Commissioner of Rodrigues, for 1881, are submitted herewith.

(*b.*) *Minor Dependencies.*

The following minor dependencies were visited and reported upon by the magistrate appointed under Ordinance No. 41 of 1875:—

Peros Banhos,
Diego Garcia,
Egmont or Six Islands,
St. Brandon,
St. Juan de Nova.

I have, &c.

Port Louis,
20th September 1882.

(Signed) F. NAPIER BROOME,
Lieutenant-Governor.

SEYCHELLES.

No. 16.

REPORT on BLUE BOOK RETURNS of the SEYCHELLES for 1881.

Government House, Seychelles,
June 16, 1882.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to submit for the information of his Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor the following report on the Blue Book Returns for the Seychelles Islands for the year 1881.

Revenue.

The revenue for the year 1881 amounted to Rs. 129,508; and thus fell short of that collected in 1880 by Rs. 23,545, and of the amount estimated by Captain Havelock for 1881 by Rs. 22,292. This unexpected diminution in the receipts during the past year was due to a sudden fall in the price of cocoanut oil, which was unforeseen when the estimates where framed, and also in some degree to a decrease in the quantity of oil produced, owing to the spread of the cocoanut tree disease.

Such a falling off in the value and quantity of the staple product, naturally led to a corresponding decline in the customs duties; both the export and the import trade being injuriously affected.

The exports for 1881 fell to Rs. 321,245, and the imports to Rs. 305,976, as against Rs. 412,382 and Rs. 444,668, respectively, in the previous year, and there was a consequent decrease in the Custom's duties in 1881 of Rs. 23,577, and in the quay dues of Rs. 742 as compared with the year before.

The loss on these items, both depending solely on the import trade, was thus Rs. 774 in excess of the entire sum by which the revenue for 1881 fell short of that for 1880; showing that a considerable increase took place over the amount collected in the previous year under the other heads of revenue.

This was the case especially under the heads of Excise, and of Registration; the former having advanced from Rs. 6,298 to Rs. 13,381, and the latter showing an increase of Rs. 951 over 1880.

The great increase in the consumption of home-made rum is worthy of especial notice; and now that a Regulation has been successfully framed for suppressing the manufacture of the "Bacca" formerly so extensively made and consumed in these Islands, the Excise will probably soon yield a far larger revenue than has been the case for many years past.

SEYCHELLES.

I have, I trust, been able to show, that although, owing to unforeseen circumstances, the revenue for 1881 fell considerably below the estimated amount, no cause exists for apprehension with respect to the future, and that even during this unusually depressed period the signs of progress and improvement were by no means absent.

The prospects for the present year are, I am happy to state, most re-assuring. An increase of nearly Rs. 9,000 over the corresponding five months of 1881, has already taken place, and I feel confident that the Revenue for 1882 will leave an ample surplus over the estimated expenditure.

Every effort is being made to stamp out the cocoanut tree disease, which I trust will in time die out, as similar plant-maladies have done in so many cases elsewhere.

The price of cocoanut oil is not, I think, likely to fall further, and may very possibly to some extent improve.

Should oil however merely maintain its present value, the increasing cultivation of coffee and spices, will, as the plantations come into full bearing, more than counterbalance the loss occasioned by the diminution in its former price.

Public Works.

The only public works of any importance executed during 1881 were the redemption of a portion of the sea shore near the Custom House, which was walled in and partially filled up with earth, &c., the construction of several small wooden bridges, and the extension of the south road a distance of 624 yards.

Shipping.

The number of vessels entering Port-Victoria during the year 1881 was 76, with a tonnage of 52,121 tons.

Seven of Her Majesty's ships, five French, one German, and two Russian men-of-war visited the port during the year.

Population and Vital Statistics.

The number of births and deaths registered throughout the Seychelles Islands in 1881 were respectively 502 and 255.

In addition to the above there were 38 still-births.

Of the births, 283 were legitmate, and 219 illegitimate.

The births of females were in excess of those of males by 18, and the deaths of males exceeded those of females in number by 23.

The birth-rate per thousand, exclusive of still-births, was 35·37, as against $29\frac{4}{14}$, returned in 1880. The rate of still-births was 26 per thousand.

The death-rate, calculated on the total population of the Islands, as determined by the census of last year, amounted to 17·96. This, though comparing very favourably with former years, was

higher that that of 1880; when, however, apparently the population of the Amirantes was not included in the return. Allowing for this omission, however, the figures in my predecessor's report ($13\frac{1}{14}$) show that the death-rate was most unusually low.

Administration of Justice.

There were 519 persons tried before the District Court in 1881, being 45 less than in the previous year.

Of this number 439 were convicted, and 178 discharged.

There were tried before the Stipendiary Court, for offences under labour laws, 171 persons, of whom 140 were convicted and 31 discharged.

Of the criminal cases during the year only 68 were at all of a serious nature.

They included however one case of murder, for which this offender was tried and executed in Mauritius.

Most of the offences were of a description which would be characterised by the English law as misdemeanours, such as contraventions of various kinds, furious driving, assaults, &c.; and it is gratifying to find that there were only 30 cases of larceny as against 122 in 1879.

Public Hospital.

The number of patients in the public hospital at the close of 1879 was 10, and 137 were admitted during 1881.

The admissions include 25 seamen of H.M.S. "Ruby," which arrived here with her crew in a very sickly condition, and 19 coolies landed from the French emigrant ship "Francis."

There were 15 deaths in the hospital during the year, and 121 patients were discharged. Amongst the deaths were those of two of the seamen and three of the coolies, above mentioned.

The number of "Dispensary patients" amounted to 4,180.

Medicine is now only supplied gratuitously to persons provided with certificates of inability to pay for it signed by ministers of religion, the wardens, &c., a change which will have the effect, I trust, of greatly diminishing the quantity issued at the cost of the Government.

The principal diseases treated in the hospital were anœmia, rheumatism, ulcers, dysentery, and syphilis.

The amount of fees received in 1881 was Rs. 2,810 and the cost of rations Rs. 2,074.

The condition and management of this hospital are all that can be desired, and the institution is a credit to the Dependency.

Prison.

I regret that a similar encomium to that which I have passed upon the hospital cannot be applied to the gaol of Port-Victoria, which is by no means well adapted for its purpose.

Money has however been voted for its improvement and the works will shortly be commenced.

SEYCHELLES.

When these are completed, a better state of things as regards prison discipline and labour than is practicable at present will be established: the prison committee showing every disposition to make improvements, and to keep pace with the times.

The sanitary state of the gaol, notwithstanding all drawbacks, is excellent. The dietary scale, though it has been slightly diminished, is liberal; but I do not consider it too much so for prisoners performing hard labour, nor as compared with the usual dietary of convict establishments. The number of persons committed to prison in 1881 was 292, as against 418 in 1880,—119 of the above persons were committed for penal offences; 166 for non-payment of fines and costs; and 7 for non-payment of local rate and surcharge.

There were 20 admissions to hospital, and 1 death. The total expenditure in the prison department for 1881 was Rs. 7,339.

Education.

During last year 12 schools were examined, with satisfactory results.

Seven of these schools are under the management of the Roman Catholic Mission, and are attended by 704 pupils, whilst five are under the control of the Church of England, and are attended by 253 pupils.

The total number of children at school is 104 in excess of the previous year.

The sum of Rs. 6,000, being Rs. 1,000 more than the previous year, was distributed as grants-in-aid in the following proportion:—

	Rs.
Roman Catholic schools - -	4,572,87
Protestant schools - - -	1,427,13

Legislation.

The following Regulations were passed by the Board of Civil Commissioners, and received the Lieutenant-Governor's approval during the year 1881:

No. 1 of 1881.—To repeal Regulation No. 2 of 1880, and to make better provision in lieu thereof. (The Regulation prohibiting the manufacture of "Bacca").

No. 2 of 1881.—To amend Regulation No. 1 of 1873 for the division of the Seychelles Islands into Wards.

No. 3 of 1881.—Giving the Estimates for 1882 the force of Law.

Several Ordinances affecting Seychelles were likewise passed in Mauritius, but as they are contained in the list of Mauritius laws for 1881, I do not deem it necessary to quote them here.

I have, &c.

The Hon. (Signed) ARTHUR C. S. BARKLY,
The Colonial Secretary, Chief Civil Commissioner.
Mauritius

RODRIGUES.

No. 17.

REPORT on the ISLAND OF RODRIGUES for the Year 1881.

I.—*Taxation.*

During the year 1881 the following reductions of license duties as levied under Ordinance No. 6 of 1878 were made by the Lieutenant-Governor in consequence of petitions addressed to his Excellency while at Rodrigues, viz :—

		Rs.		Rs.	
Wine and spirit license	from	120	to	100	per 6 months.
Grocery and grain	„	15	to	10	„
Haberdashery	„	15	to	10	„
Tobacco	„	25	to	15	„
Consolidated	„	170	to	130	„

or a reduction of Rs. 40 per six months on the licenses in bulk.

Game licenses were also reduced from Rs. 10 per annum to Rs. 5 per annum.

The wisdom of this latter reduction will be made apparent in the increased number of licenses sure to be taken out for the future.

The charge first made in 1879 for Latanier leaves and Latanier cord (the latter being made from the stem of the leaf) has also been abolished.

No other change in taxation has taken place.

II.—*Receipts and Expenditure.*

Receipts for past Two Years.

No.	Heads of Receipts.	1880.		1881.	
		Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
1	Land sales and forest produce -	465	09	391	61
2	Customs - - - -	80	73	1	93
3	Land rent - - - -	1,199	00	1,215	25
4	Pasturage - - - -	959	25	1,259	75
5	Registration dues - -	14	00	7	50

No.	Heads of Receipts.	1880.		1881.	
		Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
6	Licenses (shop, game and fishing) -	2,492	00	2,551	00
7	Stamps - - - -	255	69	82	87
8	Taxes (horses and dogs) - -	478	75	460	00
9	Postage and Commission on Money Orders	129	65	150	47
10	Fines and forfeitures - - -	307	50	808	25
11	Fees of court - - - -	210	02	207	74
12	Fees of office - - - -	52	75	23	50
13	Sale of Government property - -	344	80	1,942	64
14	School fees - - - -	57	75	70	25
15	Miscellaneous - - - -	274	94	1,493	70
	Total - - -	7,321	92	10,666	46

There is an increase in the receipts for 1881 of Rs. 3,344 54c. on those for 1880, and the figures under heads of Receipts for the year under report are nearly double those of 1878. There has been an increase in receipts for land rent, pasturage, licenses, postage, fines, and forfeitures, sale of Government property, school fees, and miscellaneous, amounting altogether to Rs. 3,727 42c., *versus* a slight decrease in land sales, forest produce, customs, registration dues, stamps, taxes, fees of court, and fees of office equal to Rs. 382 8c.

I therefore attribute the increase principally to sale of Government rice made at the beginning of the year, and increase of receipts under heading "Miscellaneous."

The rate of revenue per head of population for 1881 is Rs. 7 21c. against Rs. 5 14c. in 1880.

Expenditure for past Two Years.

No.	Heads of Expenditure.	1880.		1881.	
	Salaries, Fixed and Provisional.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
1	Magistrate and postmaster - -	3,453	32	2,119	26
2	Roman Catholic priest - -	2,166	58	1,999	92
3	Government medical officer - -	657	64	1,833	26
4	School Department - - -	2,691	96	2,595	94
5	Police and forest ranger - -	5,356	70	5,341	95
6	Hospital servants - - -	229	50	320	00
7	Scavengers - - - -	113	80	288	00
8	Increment to schoolmaster - -	—		100	00

No.	Heads of Expenditure.	1880.		1881.	
	Allowances.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
9	Rent, Government medical officer -	245	83	550	00
10	Do. schoolmaster and mistress -	360	00	360	00
11	Lodging for scavengers - -	8	00	—	
12	Meteorological observer - -	168	00	213	00
13	Allowance to sanitary warden - -	100	00	—	
14	Service of hospital dispenser, epidemic	42	50	—	
	Miscellaneous.				
15	Taxation, Crown witnesses - -	18	95	20	74
16	Commission, sale of postage labels -	—		5	75
17	Rent of hospital - - -	240	00	360	00
18	Hospital sick diets - - -	206	68	104	41
19	Works and buildings (including sanitary)	2,877	91	472	50
20	Repairs to boats and buildings -	67	00	40	50
21	Transport - - - -	15	00	30	00
22	Prisoners' rations - - -	3	76	—	
23	Rations, hospital servants and scavengers	20	94	74	76
24	Passage of paupers to Mauritius -	30	00	—	
25	Maintenance of sick paupers - -	6	00	237	00
26	Burial of paupers - - -	10	00	—	
27	Fees paid usher of police court -	8	50	244	50
28	Shares of fines and forfeitures -	—		318	63
29	Vaccination fees paid to Government medical officer - - -	—		43	50
30	Purchase of land and house for Government - - - -	—		300	00
31	Remuneration taking census - -	—		300	00
32	Pension to ex-police constable Thomas Morris - - - -	—		71	00
33	Various petty payments - -	—		25	00
	Total - - -	19,098	57	18,369	62

Decrease in expenditure in 1881 over 1880 was Rs. 728 95c., but this does not include payments made in Mauritius on account of this Island. Rate of expenditure per head of population in 1881 was Rs. 12 42c. against Rs. 13 40c. in 1880. By the foregoing tables it is shown that the expenditure at Rodrigues in 1881 was in excess of the receipts in the Island by Rs. 7,703 16c.; but it must be remembered while some payments (as above-mentioned) are made in Mauritius on account of this Dependency, and which, consequently, are not included in the expenditure here, there is a large sum received in Mauritius (of which no mention is made in the Rodrigues accounts) as duly levied on all imported goods brought to the Island, besides which the sum of Rs. 2 67c. paid in Mauritius by Messrs. Wilson and Company and the Honourable H. Pitot for land rented at Rodrigues is not borne amongst my receipts.

Quarters for the sergeant of police were also purchased, and a payment of Rs. 300 was made on account of census work, besides a few other extra payments.

RODRIGUES.

III.—*Criminal Justice.*

The number of offences coming to notice for which persons were prosecuted in 1881 was 94, being an increase of 21 on 1880.

The cases for past two years are classified as follows:—

Before what Court.	Number of Persons					
	Charged.		Convicted.		Acquitted.	
	1880.	1881.	1880.	1881.	1880.	1881.
Police Court - -	70	91	52	73	18	18
Stipendiary Court -	3	3	2	3	1	—

Table of Offences for which Persons were brought before the Courts in 1880 *and* 1881.

No.	Nature of Offence.	Number of Cases.	
		1880.	1881.
1	Larceny - - - - - - -	3	16
2	Possession of stolen property - - - -	3	14
3	Wounds and blows - - - - -	2	5
4	Carrying offensive weapons - - - -	2	—
5	Swindling - - - - - - -	2	—
6	Cruelty to animals - - - - - -	2	—
7	Drunkenness - - - - - -	13	9
8	Disturbance - - - - - -	1	1
9	Abusive language - - - - - -	6	3
10	Trespass - - - - - - -	3	5
11	Allowing animals to stray - - - - -	8	3
12	Illegally lighting fires - - -	2	3
13	Destroying trees on Crown lands and plundering wood -	6	4
14	Offences against license laws - - - -	1	9
15	Unlawful absence from paternal roof - - -	2	—
16	Refusal of duty by a seaman - - - -	1	—
17	Illegally employing engaged servants - - -	3	—
18	Obstruction of public roads - - - -	1	—
19	Indecency - - - - - - -	—	2
20	Abduction of minors - - - - -	—	1
21	Threats to injure - - - - - -	—	2
22	Assault - - - - - - -	—	4
23	Offences against vaccination laws - - - -	—	1
24	Desertion and vagrancy - - -	3	1
25	Neglecting to provide for children - - - -	—	2
	Totals - -	64	85

Nationality of Offenders.

Europeans	4
Creoles	51
Indians	12
Malagassees	26
Siamese	1
Total	94

IV.—*Education.*

Table showing the number of pupils attending the Government School for the past two years.

Year.	Average No. on Roll.	Average Attendance.	Per-centage of Attendance on Roll.
1880	29	23	79
1881	28	22	78

On the 2nd July, 1881, his Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor of Mauritius (then on a visit to the Dependency) examined the scholars, when the whole school was present.

His Lordship the Bishop of Mauritius (Dr. Royston) also examined the children. The results of these examinations were not, I believe, satisfactory, but this I attribute chiefly not to the ignorance of the pupils, but to their being awed by the presence of the distinguished visitors. These children, born and brought up in an isolated village like Port Mathurin, look with a certain amount of awe even upon the magistrate of the Island. It is then not surprising that the presence of the Governor and the Bishop should have paralyzed their little brains for the moment, and prevented their answering correctly questions which at any other time they would have replied to without difficulty.

The police magistrate held no examination during the past year.

The cost of the School for the past two years has been as under:—

Particulars.	1880.		1881.	
	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
Salaries of teachers	2,691	96	2,695	94
House rent of teachers	360	00	360	00
Total	3,051	96	3,055	94
Less school fees received	57	75	70	25
Total cost of school	2,994	21	2,985	69

N.B. — The schoolmaster received an increment in this year of Rs. 100, and the cost of servant was reduced from Rs. 16 per month to Rs. 8 per month.

RODRIGUES.

Annual cost of school to Government of each pupil Rs. 135 25c. as against Rs. 130 18c. in 1880.

The school staff comprised one schoolmaster and one schoolmistress.

No rent is paid for schoolhouse; the building belonging to the Government.

V.—*Post Office.*

The revenue collected during 1881 at Rodrigues on acconnt of the Postal Department amounted to Rs. 150 47c., being as follows:—

	Rs.	c.
Unpaid letters - - - -	15	96
Sale of postage labels - - -	104	38
Commission on money orders - -	30	13

In 1880 the postal receipts amounted to Rs. 129 65c., being an increase for the past year of Rs. 20 82c.

Money orders drawn on Mauritius reached the sum of Rs. 8,489 10c., against Rs. 8,498 20c. in 1880, or a decrease of Rs. 9 10c. in 1881.

No money orders were drawn on Rodrigues during past year. In 1880 orders to the value of Rs. 287 06c. were paid in this Island.

Letters and Newspapers Despatched and Received during the Years 1880 *and* 1881.

Year.	Received.		Despatched.	
	Letters.	Newspapers.	Letters.	Newspapers.
1880	1,089*	634	1,193‡	7
1881	1,164†	255	1,322§	6

* 8 Registered. ‡ 28 Registered.
† 41 „ § 67 „

Seventy-five letters were received, and 129 letters were despatched in 1881 in excess of 1880. The newspapers received show a falling off in 1881 of 379, and those despatched of 1.

VI.—*Public Works.*

During the year under review five miles of roads, varying from 12 to 18 feet wide, was cut over the mountains from Port Mathurin to Gabriel (the principal district of the mountain where exists the Roman Catholic Chapel, and the residence of the priests). Vehicles can now be driven the whole of this distance, and the exchange from a goat path to a broad easy road is a great boon. About two miles of branch road, feet

wide, leading from the main road to Nouvelle Descouverte was also made, as well as about one mile of road from Port Mathurin to a locality called Batterie la Guerre.

This work was authorised by the Lieutenant-Governor to enable the mountaineers to pay off their debt to Government for the rice issued to them during the famine.

Sanitary works were also to a small extent carried on during the beginning of the year.

A bridge was commenced 60 feet long by 11 wide over the mouth of the Port Mathurin River. This is not completed; some material required from Mauritius not having yet arrived.

Repairs to boats, sails, and buildings cost Rs. 40 50c.

VII.—*Population.*

The population of this Dependency on 31st December 1881 was 1,478 against 1,422 in 1880.

The nationalities are classified as under:—

Natives of	America	1
,,	Europe	26
,,	India	21
,,	Africa	10
,,	Madagascar	41
,,	Siam	1
,,	Mauritius	204
,,	Rodrigues	1,166
,,	Seychelles	6
,,	Reunion	2
		1,478

Year.	General Population.			Indian Population.			Total.		Grand Total.
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	
1880	787	613	1,400	21	1	22	808	614	1,422
1881	829	628	1,457	20	1	21	849	629	1,478

The occupation of the inhabitants and numbers employed at each stands thus:—

Agriculturists	475
Commerce	8
Artizans	12
Government employées	17
Fishermen	188
Other callings	86

Unemployed 692, comprising aged people and young children

Year.	Births.			Deaths.			Arrivals.			Departures.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
1880	43	33	76	27	21	48	44	16	60	52	33	85
1881	40	30	70	18	8	26	37	15	52	28	12	40

Six marriages were celebrated during the year against three in 1881.

No still-births either in 1880 or 1881.

The births show a diminution of six, there having been three males and three females born less in 1881 than in 1880.

The decrease in the mortality speaks well for the returning healthiness of the Island, the deaths in 1881 being almost one-half what they were in 1880.

VIII.—*Legislation.*

In June an Ordinance (No. 3 of 1881) was passed by the Mauritius Government to enable the Governor in Executive Council to frame regulations on all matters and things arising from or connected with the relation of master and servant, and the maintenance of public order among and promotion of the well being of the inhabitants of Rodrigues and other minor dependencies.

In November was framed by his Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor Regulation No. 1 under the afore-mentioned Ordinance, for the effectual prevention of cruelty to animals in the Island of Rodrigues.

IX.—*Prisons.*

Fifty-four persons were committed during the year 1881:

For non-payment of fines and costs -	5
„ safe custody until trial - -	19
„ various terms of imprisonment -	30

Rodrigues has no special prison staff, the police doing the duty of prison officers.

No offences and no escapes were recorded during 1881.

Cost of prisoners—Value of rations only, rice and salt.

Value of labour—Nil—Cleaning and ordinary labourers' work about Government premises and village.

X.—*Establishment.*

The establishment of this Dependency has cost as follows during the past two years:—

Year.	Salaries.	Allowances.	Total.
	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
1880	15,336 18	773 83	16,110 01
1881	16,599 07	1,123 00	17,722 07

The cost of the establishment of Rodrigues for 1881 is in excess of 1880 by Rs. 1612 06c. This is accounted for by the fact that the Government schoolmaster received an increment of Rs. 100, and that the payments for Government medical officer's salary and house rent, and hospital servants and scavengers, were for the whole year, which was not the case in 1880.

XI.—*Trade.*

The imports and exports for past two years stand thus:—

Year.	Imports.	Exports.
	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
1880	89,867 50	55,585 00
1881	92,871 96	159,540 00

The above statement (which gives the value of the imports and exports as nearly as they can be ascertained) indicates an increase of Rs. 3004 46c. in the imports of 1881 over those of 1880, and an increase of Rs. 103,955 in exports for the past year over the previous one.

The increase in the imports may be principally accounted for by the 300 bags of rice sent down by the Government in January 1881, and the increase in exports by the fact that 2,458 head of cattle and 2,544 goats were exported in 1881 against nine head of cattle and 1,747 goats in 1880. In 1881 there were also exported 1,731 bales of salt fish, 206 bags of beans, 32 bags of garlic, 80 pigs, and 88 dozen fowls in excess of 1880. On the other hand, maize fell off from 185 bags in 1880 to 37 bags in 1881, and fruit from 105 cases in the former year to 30 in the latter

This falling off in the exportation of maize and fruit was caused by the total failure of the maize crop at the beginning of last year, and the failure of most of the fruit on account of the drought.

RODRIGUES.

Rates of exports and imports per head of population during past two years have been as follows:

Year.	Imports.	Exports.
	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
1880	63 19	39 08
1881	62 83	107 94

XII.—*Meteorological Observations.*

Observations of the barometer, thermometer, winds and weather were made twice daily (viz., 9 A.M. and 3 P.M.) during the past year, and transmitted to the Director of the Observatory at Mauritius. These observations are made by the sergeant-major of police, as a rule, and in his absence by the police sergeant.

No hurricane was recorded during 1881.

XIII.—*General Remarks.*

Towards the end of 1880 it was evident from the long continued droughts that the maize crops in the early part of 1881 would be a failure, and in consequence that a famine was imminent. Due report of this was made to the Mauritius Government, who at latter end of December 1880 sent 100 bags of rice, and in early part of January 1881, 300 bags more for relief purposes. The worst fears were realized, for the crops were a total failure, and owing to the excessive drought nothing was obtainable from the soil for the maintenance of the hundreds of souls living upon the mountains. The rice so promptly supplied was thus the saving from starvation of a large number of the inhabitants of this Island. Issues were first made in January and continued until the end of April. People were also allowed to catch fish for food without license and to gather any wholesome eatable herbs or fruit on Crown lands. In February and March a tolerable amount of rain fell, and a crop of sweet potatoes and manioc was ready when the last of the rice had been consumed. The rice was sold on credit at Rs. 12 84c. per bag. A number paid cash at the end of the year when they had gathered in their crops of beans, while a larger number who were too poor to pay took advantage of the offer of the Lieutenant-Governor to allow them to pay by work in road making, &c.

On 28th June the great event of the year took place. This was the arrival of H.M.S. Euryalus (Flagship), Captain King, with his Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor of Mauritius (F. Napier Broome Esq., C.M.G.), and Lady Barker on board. The recent famine in the Dependency, and many other questions of importance requiring consideration, induced his Excellency thus soon after his assumption of the reins of Government to make a visit to the long neglected Rodrigues. It was the first time a Governor of Mauritius had ever been to this Island since it became a British posses-

sion, and great was the delight of its inhabitants to find by the positive proof of his Excellency's presence that Rodrigues was not considered unworthy of the personal solicitude of the Queen's representative.

The landing of the Lieutenant-Governor, Lady Barker, and suite, accompanied by Captain King, R.N., took place at 3 p.m. on the 28th June, when his Excellency was received by the magistrate, civil servants, and the principal inhabitants of Port Mathurin, the latter of whom presented the Lieutenant-Governor with an address of welcome, in which they expressed their loyal devotion to the British Crown and their unbounded joy and pleasure at his Excellency's visit, which they trusted would result in beneficial changes in the laws and administration of this Dependency. A guard of honour of marines and the band of the Euryalus had been kindly placed at the magistrate's disposal by Captain King to assist the inhabitants in doing honour to the first Governor of Mauritius visiting their little island. As his Excellency stepped on shore the clash of the "present arms" and the strains of the National Anthem were mingled with the booming of a salute from the man of war. To this was added the loud and hearty cheering of the pleased inhabitants, the presentation of the address of welcome, a procession under the triumphal arches erected from the landing jetty to the magistrate's residence, and the arrival of Lieutenant-Governor Broome was "*un fait accompli.*"

After a stay of six days, during which the Lieutenant-Governor visited various parts of the Island, received petitions on many subjects of importance to the inhabitants, examined the various public buildings, and looked minutely into the working of each department of government represented in the island, his Excellency left on Monday the 14th July, having previously honoured the residents of Port Mathurin by his attendance at a banquet given in his honour, and at a ball given to Lady Barker.

On the departure of the Governor and suite the inhabitants of the mountains came down in force, and joining with those of Port Mathurin, lined the roadway on each side from the magistrate's dwelling to the wharf, and as his Excellency and Lady Barker walked down the lane thus formed, from each side rose long and repeated cheers. At the jetty a farewell address was presented, and in a short time after the "Euryalus" steamed away, and Rodrigues was left to recover in its solitude from the excitement caused by this memorable visit.

Many changes and improvements resulting from the Lieutenant-Governor's visit will have to appear in the report of this Island for 1882.

The sanitary state of this Dependency for the past year has been very good, as will be evidenced by the greatly decreased mortality in 1881 over 1880. The depression caused in 1880 by the epidemic of fever had passed away, and although the famine at the begining of the year was a serious drawback, yet 1881 on the whole has been satisfactory, and its close has left health,

RODRIGUES.

good agricultural prospects, and (as a result of the Lieutenant-Governor's visit) the dawn of more prosperous times for Rodrigues.

(Signed) J. C. O'HALLORAN,
Police Magistrate.

Police Magistracy,
Rodrigues, 13th May 1882.

HONG KONG.

HONG KONG.

No. 18.

Administrator W. H. MARSH, C.M.G., to the Right Hon. the EARL OF KIMBERLEY.

Government House, Hong Kong,
September 25, 1882.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith the Blue Book for 1881, together with the Administrative Reports for that year. Copies of the Governor's addresses, which were intended by him as a report on the Blue Book, are also annexed. I shall therefore limit myself to a few remarks intended to establish a comparison between the statistical returns for 1881 and those of the four previous years.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The revenue, omitting Premia from land sales, amounted to $1,120,796 77, and exceeded the expenditure by $139,214 67. Premia from land sales realized this year the very large amount of $203,659 20. The revenue and expenditure for the past five years has been :—

Years.	Revenue.	Premia from Land.	Expenditure.
	$	$	$
1877 - - -	920,321 34	84,990 69	873,207 86
1878 - -	936,606 02	11,031 70	910,523 32
1879 - -	962,687 40	1,407 59	926,867 86
1880 - - -	1,063,949 29	5,998 35	948,014 33
1881 - - -	1,120,796 77	203,659 20	981,582 10

The rate per head of population of the revenue and expenditure was, in 1877 and in 1881 :—

	1877.	1881.
	$	$
Revenue per head - -	6 61	6 96
Expenditure per head -	6 28	6 12

Military Expenditure.

The military contribution paid by the Colony during the last five years has been as follows:—

	$
1877 - - - -	101,183 15
1878 - - - -	104,679 36
1879 - - - -	109,754 95
1880 - - - -	105,355 14
1881 - - - -	108,605 17

Assets and Liabilities.

On the 31st of December 1881 the assets of the Colony exceeded its liabilities (exclusive of special fund assets) by $663,710 24. The surplus assets of the preceding four years have been as follows:—

	$
1877 - - - -	310,103 80
1878 - - - -	300,034 95
1879 - - - -	190,254 11
1880 - - - -	275,652 16

Currency.

The average amount of bank notes in circulation in Hong Kong during the last five years has been as follows:—

Year.	Average Amount.	Specie in Reserve.
1877 - - - -	35,462,239	14,267,000
1878 - - - -	34,665,545	14,350,000
1879 - - - -	37,501,907.33	17,000,000
1880 - - - -	41,194,805	16,390,000
1881 - - - -	42,660,109	16,100,000

Return of lands granted during the last five years.

Year.	Total Number of Grants.	Total Number of Acres granted.
		A. R. P.
1877 - - - -	60	37 0 25¼
1878 - - - -	48	38 0 12
1879 - - - -	12	17 1 38
1880 - - - -	21	34 3 8
1881 - - - -	40	47 2 3½

Shipping.

The total arrivals, exclusive of junks, during the year 1881, amount to 3,214 vessels and 2,853,279 tons, being an excess of 333 vessels, and 317,692 tons over the arrivals in 1880. 24,339 junks and 1,680,025 tons arrived in the colony in 1881, as against 23,920 junks and 1,650,258 tons in 1880, showing an increase of 419 junks.

HONG KONG.

Total arrivals, exclusive of junks, at Hong Kong, for the following years :—

Years.	Number of Vessels.	Tons.
1877 - - - -	2,869	2,445,755
1878 - - - -	3,057	2,591,172
1879 - - - -	2,729	2,470,645
1880 - - - -	2,881	2,535,587
1881 - - - -	3,214	2,853,279

Total arrivals of junks for the following years :—

Year.	Number of Junks.	Tons.
1877 - - - -	26,500	1,798,788
1878 - - - -	25,722	1,761,496
1879 - - - -	24,508	1,652,023
1880 - - - -	23,920	1,650,258
1881 - - - -	24,339	1,680,025

Forests and Botanical Gardens.

The total number of trees planted in 1881 is 777,914, as compared with 211,015 in 1880.

Population.

The population numbered 160,402 on the 3rd April 1881, as compared with 139,144 on the 4th December 1876.

The births and deaths for the last five years are as follows :—

Year.	Births.	Deaths.
1877 - - -	1,684	3,731
1878 - - - -	1,484	4,119
1879 - - - -	1,433	4,473
1880 - - - -	1,578	3,996
1881 - - - -	1,518	3,862

Hospitals.

The admissions to hospital for the year 1881 have been more numerous as compared with last year.

———	1880.	1881.
Police - - -	588	498
Board of Trade - -	80	117
Private paying patients -	132	193
Government servants - -	47	67
Police cases - - -	101	139
Destitutes - - -	107	222
Total - -	1,055	1,236

The total number of admissions to hospital, and deaths during the last five years are shown below.

Years.	Admissions.	Deaths.
1877 - - - -	950	49
1878 - - - -	1,289	50
1879 - - - -	1,071	55
1880 - - - -	1,055	44
1881 - - - -	1,236	49

The admissions from the police force, and the number of deaths for the past five years are as follows:—

Year.	Admissions.	Deaths.
1877 - - - -	418	6
1878 - - - -	566	6
1879 - - - -	566	8
1880 - - - -	588	13
1881 - - - -	498	10

The admissions of the Europeans were 126 in 1880, as compared with 89 in 1881; the Chinese were 243 in 1880, as compared with 198 in 1881; and the Indians were 224 in 1880, as compared with 214 in 1881.

Troops.

The number of admissions for the last five years are as follows:—

Year.	Admissions.	Deaths.
1877 - - - -	973	9
1878 - - - -	944	10
1879 - - - -	1,055	8
1880 - - - -	1,075	13
1881 - - - -	1,116	4

Small-pox Hospital.

The admissions for the past five years have been as follwos:—

Year.	Admissions.
1877 - - - -	25
1878 - - - -	7
1879 - - - -	13
1880 - - - -	9
1881 - - - -	7

There were three deaths in 1881.

Inquests.

The following will show the number of inquests held during the last five years :—

1877 - - - - -	79
1878 - - - - -	103
1879 - - - - -	102
1880 - - - - -	60
1881 - - - - -	111

Emigration.

The following will show the number of Chinese emigrants who left the Colony, and the number of Chinese who returned during the last five years :—

Year.	Left.	Returned.
1877 - - - -	39,741	48,746
1878 - - -	38,653	47,882
1879 - - - -	33,529	50,542
1880 - - - -	50,324	51,011
1881 - - - -	70,625	52,983

The greater part of the large excess of emigrants over the previous years embarked for California.

Gaol.

The total number of persons committed during the last five years is as follows :—

1877 - - - - -	3,964
1878 - - - - -	3,803
1879 - - - - -	3,665
1880 - - - - -	3,530
1881 - - - - -	4,150

Police.

Comparative return of offences coming under the notice of the police during the last five years:—

Year.	Serious Offences.			Minor Offences.		
	No. of Cases.	Convicted.	Discharged.	No. of Cases.	Convicted.	Discharged.
1877 -	1,966	1,196	341	5,422	*3,791	*702
1878 - -	2,611	1,554	571	4,224	*3,839	*775
1879 - -	2,397	1,381	485	3,732	*3,350	*898
1880 - -	2,051	1,208	430	4,364	*3,548	*875
1881 - -	2,329	1,390	406	4,367	*4,459	*702
Total -	11,354	6,729	2,233	22,109	*18,987	*3,952
Average of 5 Years -	2,270·8	1,345·8	446·6	4,421·8	*3,797·4	*7,90·4
Average of 5 Years ending 1876 - -	1,351·4	930·4	342·4	5,772·8	*4,329	*662·6

* No analysis of convictions and discharges under "drunkenness," "nuisances," and "no light or pass" is given.

Magistrates.

Abstracts of cases under cognizance of the police magistrates during the last five years:—

Year.	Total Number of Cases.	Total Number of Prisoners.	Cases, how disposed of.					
			Convicted and Punished.	Discharged.	Committed for Trial.	Committed, pending Orders.	Ordered to find Security.	Undecided.
1877 - -	9,283	10,717	7,925	2,330	224	17	209	12
1878 - -	9,100	10,552	7,807	2,377	218	11	120	19
1879 - -	7,009	8,705	6,140	2,089	158	18	262	38
1880 - -	7,098	8,657	6,196	1,962	197	15	252	35
1881 - -	8,203	10,009	7,422	1,851	240	4	434	58
Total -	40,693	48,640	35,490	10,609	1,037	65	1,277	162
Average of five years -	8,138·6	9,728	7,098	2,121·8	207·4	13	255·4	32·4
Average of five years ending 1876	8,864·8	11,701·4	9,189·2	2,132·2	114·6	20	220·4	24·6

HONG KONG.

Supreme Court.

Return of cases tried in the Supreme Court during the last five years:—

Year.	No. of Cases.	No. of Persons.	Convicted.	Acquitted.	Charges Abandoned.	
					No. of Cases.	No. of Persons.
1877 - -	127	179	135	39	7	5
1878 - -	157	216	163	45	6	8
1879 - -	148	202	135	54	11	13
1880 - -	91	160	120	34	6	6
1881 - -	105	154	111	39	1	4
Total -	628	911	664	211	31	36
Average of 5 years	125·6	182·2	132·8	42·2	6·2	7·2
Average of 5 years ending 1876 -	57·6	100·	61·8	26·0	7·4	11·8

Return of marine cases tried at the Marine Magistrate's Court during the last five years:—

Year.	Number of Cases.	Number of Defendants.	Defendants how disposed of.							
			Imprisoned.	Fined.	Forfeiture of Pay.	Reprimanded.	Sent back to Duty.	To be discharged from Ship.	Dismissed.	Committed for Trial.
1877 - -	195	299	127	74	38	12	13	2	33	—
1878 - -	199	293	108	67	53	13	22	1	29	—
1879 - -	144	299	141	65	25	17	7	4	40	—
1880 - -	85	140	56	24	25	2	14	—	19	—
1881 - -	86	144	68	37	2	2	15	4	16	—
Total -	709	1,175	500	267	143	46	71	11	137	—
Average of five years -	141·8	235·	100·	53·4	28·6	9·2	12·2	2·2	27·2	—
Average of five years ending 1876	235·2	430·4	180·4	119·0	48·0	12·4	28·0	4·8	37·6	—

Education.

The total number of schools subject to supervision by the Government amounted in 1881 to 72, as compared with 63 in 1880, 50 in 1879, and 47 in 1878.

The total number of scholars attending schools subject to Government supervision during the last five years is as follows :—

Year.	Government Schools.	Grant-in-Aid.	Total.
1877 - - -	2,148	996	3,144
1878 - - -	2,101	1,051	3,152
1879 - - -	2,043	1,417	3,460
1880 - - -	2,078	1,808	3,886
1881 - - -	1,986	2,386	4,372

Total Expenditure for the last five years is as follows :—

	$
1877 - - - -	21,158 07
1878 - - - -	22,197 99
1879 - - - -	25,733 64
1880 - - - -	27,813 63
1881 - - - -	29,592 32

Post Office

The following will show the number of letters received and despatched, and the amount of revenue during the last five years :—

Year.	Number of Letters received.	Number of Letters despatched.	Revenue.
			$
1877 - -	No record.	No record.	130,607 37
1878 - -	„	„	121,528 58
1879 - -	346,428	333,192	101,787 03
1880 - -	425,480	409,880	96,503 57
1881 - -	460,145	471,506	102,710 56

Approximate numbers only; letters, except registered and official, are counted only in November, and multiplied by 12.

Legislation.

Fifteen Ordinances were passed in 1881, of which the more important are :—

"The Macas Extradition Ordinance."
"The Penal Ordinances, Amendment Ordinance."
"The Companies Ordinance."

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. (Signed) W. H. MARSH,
The Earl of Kimberley, Administrator.
&c. &c.

LABUAN.

No. 19.

Administrator LEYS to the Right Hon. the EARL OF KIMBERLEY.

Government House, Labuan,
August 31, 1882.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to forward enclosed copy in duplicate of the Blue Book for the year 1881, together with a Report thereon.

I have, &c.
(Signed) P. LEYS,
Administrator.

The Right Hon.
The Earl of Kimberley,
&c. &c.

REPORT ON THE LABUAN BLUE BOOK FOR 1881.

Finance.

1. *Revenue.*—The total revenue received during the year amounted to $22,948 47 against the sum of $28,432 44 received during the previous year. The difference is due chiefly to smaller amounts having been received under the heads of excise licenses, miscellaneous receipts, special receipts, and land revenue. The decrease of $4,290 63, under the head of excise licenses, was due to the continued cessation of mining operations at Coal Point; and of $1,050, under miscellaneous services, to the sum of $1,000 having been received in 1880 as arrears of profit arising on the sale of copper coinage; and that of $1,236 05, under special receipts, to the sum of $1,367 00 having been received from the Foreign Office in 1880 on account of the Government S.S. "Tony."

An increase in revenue over that of 1880 was received during the year under the following heads:—(1.) Land sales, $564 50, wholly due to the sum of $1,000 00 having been received during the year for 1,302 square yards of water frontage sold for the erection on it of a wharf; (2.) Rents, exclusive of land, $74 86; (3.) Postage $331 10, due to increased correspondence transmitted through the Labuan Post Office by the officers of the British North Borneo Company, and to the sale of postage stamps to collectors; (4) Fees of office, $46 50; and (5.) Sale of Government property, $672 78, due to the sum of $625 00 having been received in 1881 as the sum realized by the sale of the Government S.S. "Tony."

The above-mentioned water frontage is the only piece of foreshore in the harbour valuable for wharf building that has been alienated from the Crown.

2. *Expenditure.*—The total expenditure during the year was $32,245 24, while that of the previous year was $32,223 69, the difference amounting to only $21 55.

The expenditure under the various heads were during the year smaller than the sums spent under the same heads during 1880, with the following exceptions:—(1.) Transport, $403 27, due to the cost of a passage to England of an officer of the police force who retired on a pension; (2.) Works and buildings, $1,209 73, due to the building of new police quarters in Victoria and new gaolor's quarters at Tanjong Terras; (3.) Marine department, $53 48; and (4.) Special payments, $48 68.

Works and Buildings.

3. During the year a wooden bungalow was built for the goaler on the site of the former one close to the gaol. The building is a very substantial one of planed timber, standing on dressed piles, stepped in blocks of stone. The sum of $690 15, which appears as the amount expended on it, by no means represents the entire cost of the building, but only that of the materials and the more skilled labour employed in its construction, as it was largely built by convict labour, for which $500 at least might be fairly added to the above sum.

The only other building of importance that was carried on during the year was a barrack in Victoria, estimated to accommodate ten native police, in separate rooms. This building was begun in the month of February, but beyond building the numerous brick pillars necessary to raise it sufficiently from the ground, buying the timber, and sawing it up into logs, little more was accomplished by the close of the year. Convicts were largely employed on this work also, especially in the rougher kinds, such as sawing up the logs, carting the bricks and lime, &c. This barrack will be most useful when finished, as it will allow of the whole of the small police force being concentrated in barracks in the centre of the locality in which their work almost wholly lies.

Roads, Streets, and Bridges.

4. The improvement of Beach street, the principal street of the port, was continued during most of the year, the larger part of the labour being performed by convicts. This street, which faces the sea, has been raised above nine inches throughout most of its length, by laying down rough pieces of hard coral, and covering them with layers of broken coral and sand. A good serviceable road is the result. Formerly this street was periodically flooded by the tide at both equinoxes.

Establishments.

5. The changes which took place during the year were as follows:—Mr. Willis, sergeant-major of police, retired on the abolition of his office on a pension on the 1st January; Mr. Boyd,

LABUAN.

chief constable of police, was appointed clerk to the police court on Mr. Willis's retirement; Mr. Treacher, Colonial Secretary, while on leave in England, was allowed three years' leave of absence, without salary, to take up the appointment of Governor of the British North Borneo Company's territories; his Excellency C. C. Lees, C.M.G., left the Colony on 3rd September, having been promoted to the Governorship of the Bahama Islands; Mr. Leys administered the Government on Governor Lees' departure: and Mr. Richard Jansz was appointed Colonial Surgeon on the 17th December, but did not arrive in the Colony during the year.

Pensions.

6. The only alterations which took place, under this head, during the year, were the death of Pensioner Buyong on the 21st August, and the addition to the list of Mr. Willis's pension of 46*l.* 15*s.* per annum, on his retirement on 1st January. The number of Europeans on this list is, comparatively speaking, great, very exceptionally so indeed, as the number equals that of the European officers who were on active service during the year.

Population.

7. The census, taken on the night of the 3rd April, showed the population of Labuan and its dependencies to be 5,883, exclusive of the crews and passengers on board men-of-war and merchant steamers in the harbour. The numbers actually then resident in the Settlement were, I believe, accurately taken, but the total was much affected by the following causes:—Firstly, increased by the immigration of a number of Malays from the opposite coast of Borneo, where at the time there were tribal disturbances; secondly, decreased by (*a.*) the continued cessation of coal mining operations at the northern end of the Island; (*b.*) the absence of a number of the inhabitants who had gone to the coast searching for gutta; and (*c.*) a certain number who had been given employment by the British North Borneo Company at their stations on the coast.

The proportions of the different nationalities of the inhabitants were as follows:—

Aborigines of Borneo - -	803·35
Africans - - - -	·52
Arabs - - - -	·69
Chinese - - - -	170·30
Europeans - - - -	3·31
Javanese - - - -	2·28
Manilamen - - -	4·01
Natives of India - - -	8·90
Sulus - - - -	6·64
	1000·00

On comparing these figures with the totals returned in 1871, it is found that the number of Europeans have greatly decreased, while the number of Asiatics have increased very considerably; the numbers in the two years being—

	White Population.		Coloured Population.		Total.
	M.	F.	M.	F.	
1871 - -	43	7	2,984	1,864	4,898
In 1881 - -	13	6	3,506	2,358	5,883

The decrease in the number of resident Europeans is chiefly due to the total absence, in 1881, of the European officers who commanded the detachment of Indian troops stationed in Labuan in 1871, and of the European employés of the coal company, who in the later mentioned year resided at Coal Point.

Notwithstanding the above totals, I am of opinion that the inhabitants have not increased of late, anyhow since the year 1879, when the Oriental Coal Company's Works at Coal Point were stopped. And this opinion can scarcely be gainsayed, when it is stated that the village near the works at Coal Point numbered in 1879 from 1,200 to 1,500 inhabitants, whereas in 1881 the return for the whole district gives the number of inhabitants as only 193. Apart, however, from the influence, great certainly as it was, that the coal company's mining operations had on the numbers of the inhabitants, and on the prosperity of a large part of them, and to a less extent on the direct trade of the port, I believe that the number of the inhabitants have, independently of these influences, increased, and that the trade of the port has, as I hope to make evident under its proper heading, been steadily increasing.

Education.

8. The daily average of attendance at the Boys' Free School was only 10·49 against 17 in 1880 and 14 in 1879, There was also a falling off during the year in the rate of progress made by the boys. This falling off in the attendance is partly accounted for by the fact that during the year some of the boys' fathers left the Colony, with their families, to search for gutta; others left for employment at the British North Borneo Company's stations on the coast; but it is also in part due to defective supervision of the school, especially towards the end of the year. The salary attached to the post of schoolmaster is too small to command the service of an energetic and experienced master, and the constant supervision that is at present required has, I regret to state, not been afforded during the past year.

Trade and Manufactures.

9. In reviewing the trade of the Settlement, as exhibited by the Blue Book returns of imports and exports, it must be borne in mind that, although Labuan produces certain articles and manufactures others, the Settlement must be regarded as chiefly a trading station to which, from the coast of Borneo and adjacent islands, sea produce, jungle produce, a small quantity of manufactures and some products of cultivation are brought, and there exchanged for rice, cloth, hardware, &c., all which have been imported into Labuan from Singapore and Hong Kong.

The Chinese traders in Labuan freight native prahus with these imported manufactures, and send them trading along the coast of Borneo and occasionally to some of the islands in the Sulu Archipelago. These prahus bring back in exchange chiefly jungle and sea produce. Returns are taken of all articles imported from or exported to Singapore and Hong Kong, and of all articles imported into the Colony from the coasts of Borneo, from Sulu, and the Northern Islands, which last articles, being subsequently exported to Singapore or Hong Kong, again appear in the returns as exports. No note is, however, taken of the articles exported from Labuan to the coast and north, but it has been the practice to add in the Blue Book Returns, to the sum total of the value of articles exported as above mentioned to Singapore and Hong Kong, a large sum for the articles exported from Labuan to Borneo and the Sulu Archipelago.

This being the case, it is obvious that if a correct return be made of all articles exported from Labuan to Singapore and Hong Kong, the return will include all articles imported from the coast, as well as all the produce and manufactures of the Colony, less the amounts of these articles consumed in the Island. As, however, practically speaking, none of either the articles imported from the coast, or the products and manufactures of the Island (chiefly coal and sago flour) are consumed or used in Colony, it follows that such a list of exports forms a very succinct and fair statement of the trade of the Settlement. As, moreover, all the produce from the coast that passes through Labuan, and all Labuan produce and manufactures are exported exclusively to Singapore and Hong Kong, and are exported thence in ships, and none in native vessels, the return of articles so exported is presumably more reliable than one taken from the numerous native vessels that leave the Settlement, many without papers or even a port clearance, and at all hours of the night and day.

10. Acting on these views I have prepared the following table of exports to Singapore and Hong Kong, from 1st January 1855, before which date the returns are, I believe, unreliable, to the end of 1881:—

Exports from Labuan, from 1855 to 1881.

———	1855.	1856.	1857.	1858.	1859.	1860.	1861.	1862.	1863.	1864.	1865.	1866.	1867.	1868.
I.—Imports exported.														
1st.—Jungle produce.	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1. Beeswax	906	817	178	41	345	2,083	1,087	383	1,384	2,573	4,968	4,653	2,259	10,905
2. Birds' nests	354	1,105	1,150	1,052	660	756	677	848	1,622	7,961	5,023	9,199	5,896	5,682
3. Camphor	141	500	343	1,187	1,406	1,441	3,197	812	5,168	11,156	3,985	3,280	6,285	3,065
4. Canes	—	—	26	62	290	390	971	2,171	327	665	1,203	2,562	357	1,120
5. Dammar	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	63
6. Gutta-percha and Indian-rubber.	211	110	47	—	52	43	239	312	83	400	1,085	2,675	7,394	18,518
7. Timber	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
8. Tinder vegetable (Punk)	—	—	406	1,250	138	—	—	—	—	—	—	78	—	39
9. Miscellaneous	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	100	—	—	—	—
Total	1,612	2,532	2,150	3,592	2,891	4,713	6,171	4,526	8,584	22,855	16,264	22,447	22,191	39,392
2nd.—Sea produce.														
1. Pearls and sea pearls	—	137	93	—	47	—	354	—	—	375	312	1,584	10,450	11,553
2. Pearlshells	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	660	156	175	1,404	—	—
3. Sharks' fins	7	23	14	3	17	1,214	45	20	40	30	124	122	96	468
4. Trepang	66	254	184	20	35	—	131	516	830	880	2,208	1,728	928	3,392
5. Tortoiseshell	—	—	375	—	93	104	—	5	475	400	550	750	982	579
6. Miscellaneous	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	73	414	666	23	192	1,318	530	541	2,005	1,841	3,369	5,588	12,456	15,992
3rd.—Produce of Lands under cultivation.														
1. Cinnamon	297	475	50	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	280
2. Cocoa-nuts and copra	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3. Coffee (Sulu)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	242	314
4. Hides	57	80	328	83	310	312	95	115	193	78	492	384	801	797
5. Pepper	574	887	931	210	866	1,405	913	871	420	339	553	477	325	270
6. Rice	109	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	300	619	312	130	—
7. Rope	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	528	270	174
8. Sago (raw)	2,403	8,170	1,214	906	750	4,270	4,710	1,715	927	—	787	—	—	500
9. Sago (flour and pearl)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	354	—	—	—	—	1,710	—
10. Miscellaneous	—	20	23	—	—	—	25	—	—	32	51	—	66	93
Total	3,440	9,632	2,546	1,199	1,926	5,887	5,743	3,055	1,540	749	2,502	1,701	3,544	2,428

EXPORTS from LABUAN, from 1855 to 1881—*continued.*

	1869.	1870.	1871.	1872.	1873.	1874.	1875.	1876.	1877.	1878.	1879.	1880.	1881.
I.—IMPORTS EXPORTED—*continued.*													
1st.—Jungle produce.	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1. Beeswax	4,480	1,976	2,044	1,177	1,444	2,805	—	800	2,064	2,732	1,905	1,030	1,526
2. Birds' nests	7,225	7,045	1,894	7,321	5,015	4,340	—	5,732	13,555	10,453	10,698	9,930	8,856
3. Camphor	2,380	3,345	2,463	2,291	1,714	1,596	—	4,978	6,310	4,396	3,086	2,982	2,587
4. Canes	1,295	1,461	385	2,565	570	1,852	—	2,322	2,306	4,547	11,487	7,708	8,968
5. Dammar	161	441	825	1,159	26	381	—	—	26	—	—	129	817
6. Gutta-percha and Indian-rubber	8,441	8,226	12,352	16,953	8,785	4,188	—	5,206	6,491	4,342	9,898	24,443	46,074
7. Timber	178	83	—	—	—	—	—	—	165	—	—	4	81
8. Tinder vegetable (Punk)	169	—	—	141	9	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—
9. Miscellaneous	—	—	22	12	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	24,329	22,577	19,985	31,619	17,569	15,162	—	19,038	30,921	26,470	37,074	46,226	68,909
2nd.—Sea produce.													
1. Pearls and sea pearls	2,328	5,685	1,084	2,184	758	1,308	—	4,165	1,833	2,943	921	693	116
2. Pearlshells	665	332	635	2,178	145	—	—	955	5,462	2,537	1,084	3,260	7,266
3. Sharks' fins	225	124	203	373	165	201	—	277	644	403	276	111	385
4. Trepang	1,844	526	374	500	2,731	1,738	—	2,580	3,817	2,395	1,579	1,544	3,229
5. Tortoiseshell	306	532	542	1,423	1,687	1,629	—	1,888	1,846	1,271	1,266	2,091	2,151
6. Miscellaneous	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	144	—	—	—	—
Total	5,368	7,199	2,838	6,658	5,486	4,876	—	9,865	13,746	9,549	5,126	7,699	13,147
3rd.—Produce of Lands under cultivation.													
1. Cinnamon	629	574	249	58	46	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2. Cocoanuts and copra	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	312	783
3. Coffee (Sulu)	232	110	47	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4. Hides	838	1,365	724	532	578	788	—	986	1,295	1,719	537	623	684
5. Pepper	132	200	46	94	174	6	—	55	35	29	—	—	13
6. Rice	—	80	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
7. Rope	343	594	75	12	—	—	—	—	1,338	55	241	104	—
8. Sago (raw)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,890	938	2,379
9. Sago (flour and pearl)	—	4,847	5,743	6,341	4,986	6,675	—	8,395	14,095	20,077	16,920	11,488	8,734
10. Miscellaneous	—	14	64	224	65	—	—	—	205	80	—	93	432
Total	2,174	7,784	6,948	7,261	5,849	7,469	—	9,436	16,968	21,960	19,588	13,558	13,025

EXPORTS from LABUAN, from 1855 to 1881—*continued.*

——	1855.	1856.	1857.	1858.	1859.	1860.	1861.	1862.	1863.	1864.	1865.	1866.	1867.	1868.
I.—IMPORTS EXPORTED—*continued.*														
4th.—Manufactures almost wholly from Brunei.	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1. Cigars	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2. Cloth	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	650	750	—	600
3. Cocoanut oil	—	—	—	—	—	—	164	—	—	—	—	—	342	—
4. Mats	—	—	—	87	—	—	—	33	—	—	—	—	—	—
5. Miscellaneous	—	—	—	—	—	—	625	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	—	—	—	87	—	—	789	33	—	—	650	750	342	600
5th.—Non-classified.														
1. Specie	1,145	1,562	520	—	870	—	—	—	2,500	83	—	—	—	1,458
2. Miscellaneous	265	1,136	—	163	99	520	—	—	—	—	16	16	—	48
Total	1,410	2,698	520	163	969	520	—	—	2,500	83	16	16	—	1,506
II.—PRODUCE AND MANUFACTURES OF COLONY EXPORTED.														
1. Coals (including coals supplied to vessels calling).	1,399	4,796	1,145	—	—	—	—	912	4,320	10,308	11,995	10,384	7,377	5,677
2. Cocoanuts and copra	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3. Cocoanut oil	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	93	—	112	164	—	—	814
4. Hides	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5. Sago flour	—	—	—	—	572	—	1,289	3,955	3,380	12,250	23,561	16,400	11,847	15,929
6. Salt fish	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
7. Timber	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	216	—
8. Miscellaneous	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	1,399	4,796	1,145	—	572	—	1,289	4,960	7,700	22,670	35,720	26,784	19,440	22,420

EXPORTS from LABUAN, from 1855 to 1881—*continued.*

	1869.	1870.	1871.	1872.	1873.	1874.	1875.	1876.	1877.	1878.	1879.	1880.	1881.
I.—IMPORTS EXPORTED—*continued.*													
4th.—Manufactures almost wholly from Brunei.	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1. Cigars	—	581	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2. Cloths	65	67	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3. Cocoanut oil	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4. Mats	—	16	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	42	20
5. Miscellaneous	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	80	664	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	42	20
5th.—Non-classified.													
1. Specie	1,251	1,092	2,656	—	208	2,303	—	1,443	191	932	348	—	—
2. Miscellaneous	—	100	143	252	514	410	—	465	9	96	233	556	496
Total	1,251	1,192	2,799	252	722	2,713	—	1,908	200	1,028	571	556	496
II.—PRODUCE AND MANUFACTURES OF COLONY EXPORTED.													
1. Coals (including coals supplied to vessels calling).	5,589	7,544	2,057	3,312	2,656	3,451	—	531	929	1,590	2,324	763	1,574
2. Cocoanuts and copra	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	284	531
3. Cocoanut oil	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	75	—	—	177	—
4. Hides	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	360	157	76
5. Sago flour	18,936	14,162	18,087	19,907	11,155	23,434	—	22,755	28,203	24,472	32,318	27,155	20,894
6. Salt fish	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	500	16	46	578	—	—
7. Timber	—	77	—	—	44	—	—	62	—	159	536	340	492
8. Miscellaneous	—	—	—	70	18	—	—	—	—	—	218	—	—
Total	24,525	21,783	20,144	23,289	13,873	26,885	—	23,848	29,229	26,267	36,334	28,876	23,567

RÉSUMÉ.

	1855.	1856.	1857.	1858.	1859.	1860.	1861.	1862.	1863.	1864.	1865.	1866.	1867.	1868.
I.—IMPORTED.	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1. Jungle produce - -	1,612	2,532	2,150	3,592	2,891	4,713	6,171	4,526	8,584	22,855	16,264	22,447	22,191	39,392
2. Sea produce - - -	73	414	666	23	192	1,318	530	541	2,005	1,841	3,369	5,588	12,456	15,992
3. Produce of lands under cultivation.	3,440	9,632	2,546	1,199	1,926	5,887	5,743	3,055	1,540	749	2,502	1,701	3,544	2,428
4. Manufactures almost wholly from Brunei.	—	—	—	87	—	—	789	33	—	—	650	750	342	600
5. Non-classified - -	1,410	2,698	520	163	969	520	—	—	2,500	83	16	16	—	1,506
Total - - -	6,535	15,276	5,882	5,064	5,978	12,438	13,233	8,155	14,629	25,528	22,801	30,502	38,533	59,918
II.—PRODUCE AND MANUFACTURES OF THE COLONY.	1,399	4,796	1,145	—	572	—	1,289	4,960	7,700	22,670	35,720	26,784	19,440	22,420
GRAND TOTALS -	7,934	20,072	7,027	5,064	6,550	12,438	14,522	13,115	22,329	48,198	58,521	57,286	57,973	82,338

(*Continued.*)

	1869.	1870.	1871.	1872.	1873.	1874.	1875.	1876.	1877.	1878.	1879.	1880.	1881.
I.—IMPORTED.	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1. Jungle produce - -	24,329	22,577	19,985	31,619	17,569	15,162	—	19,038	30,921	26,470	37,074	46,226	68,909
2. Sea produce - - -	5,368	7,199	2,838	6,658	5,486	4,876	—	9,865	13,746	9,549	5,126	7,699	13,147
3. Produce of lands under cultivation.	2,174	7,784	6,948	7,261	5,849	7,469	—	9,436	16,968	21,960	19,588	13,558	13,025
4. Manufactures almost wholly from Brunei.	80	664	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	42	20
5. Non-classified - -	1,251	1,192	2,799	252	722	2,713	—	1,908	200	1,028	571	556	496
Total - -	33,202	39,416	32,570	45,790	29,626	30,220	—	40,247	61,835	59,007	62,359	68,081	95,597
II.—PRODUCE AND MANUFACTURES OF THE COLONY.	24,525	21,783	20,144	23,289	13,873	26,885	—	23,848	29,229	26,267	36,334	28,876	23,567
GRAND TOTALS -	57,727	61,199	52,714	69,079	43,499	57,105	—	64,095	91,064	85,274	98,693	96,957	119,164

LABUAN.

In submitting this table, I would state that while it has not been prepared with a view to absolute accuracy, the shillings and pence, for instance, in each item being omitted, it has been prepared with as great an accuracy as the Blue Book Returns at my disposal will admit of, and an accuracy amply sufficient for the deductions that will be drawn from it.

I regret that there are no returns at present in the Colony giving the sum total of the value of each article exported during the year 1875. I must also observe that, although there was doubtless a great increase in trade in 1868, the sums given as the value of the articles exported during that year are much too large, as was pointed out by Governor Bulwer in 1873, the articles having been valued at a much higher rate by the compiler of that year's return than they were ever valued at before or since. The returns, therefore, for 1868 must be regarded as too large comparatively.

In this table the exports have been divided into two sections, the first comprising those articles, almost all of them raw products, which are imported into the island from Borneo, Sulu, &c., and the second comprising the products and manufactures of the Colony.

The articles under Section I. are divided into six classes, as follows:—1st, the produce of jungle; 2nd, the produce of the sea; 3rd, the produce of lands (exclusive of Labuan) under cultivation; 4th, manufactures imported from Borneo and Sulu; and, 5th, articles, including specie, that could not readily be classified. This last class is inconsiderable in amount, and consists mainly of articles entered in Blue Book Returns as sundries, and which could not be further specialized for want of the original detailed documents.

11. On examining the first class of the first section of this table it is seen that, while the amounts of beeswax, camphor,* and damar† exported have increased only to a small extent or remained stationary, the quantities of birds' nests, canes, and gutta‡ have largely increased, more especially during the last three years. The value of the gutta exported during the last four years increased as follows:—1878, 4,342*l.*; 1879, 9,898*l.*; 1880, 24,443*l.*; and in 1881, 46,074*l.*

The large increase in the export of this last article is due to the high price it commanded in the market during these years. During the years 1878, 1879, 1880, and 1881 a certain amount of timber was exported from the Colony to Hong Kong. This timber was cut on the coast, and ought to have been entered under head No. 7 of this class, but, owing to its having been rafted to

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* This camphor is obtained from trees (*Dryobalanops camphora*) indigenous only to the Malayan countries, and is forty times as costly as ordinary camphor, principally on account of its subliming extremely slowly at ordinary temperature.

† A resin much used in the manufacture of varnish.

‡ Includinh indian-rubber.

Labuan in small quantities at a time, it has been erroneously entered under head No. 7 of Section II.

The totals exported under this class show a great and regular increase during the last four years, the amounts being in 1878, 26,470*l.*; in 1879, 37,074*l.*; in 1880, 46,226*l.*; in 1881, 68,909*l.*

12. Under the next class, sea products, it is to be remarked that from the nature of the articles under head No. 1 the returns must naturally show a much smaller amount than the values actually exported. A decided increase has taken place during the past year in the amounts of pearlshell,* tortoiseshell, and trepang† exported, especially in that of the first mentioned. The increase in jungle and sea produce is very apparent when the totals of both for the last six years are compared with similar totals for the six years ending 1874.

	1869 to 1874.	1876 to 1881.
	£	£
Totals of Jungle produce - - -	131,241	228,638
Totals of Sea produce - - -	32,425	59,132
	163,666	287,770

Again, the steady increase in the amount of these products exported during the last six years is very noteworthy.

	£
In 1876 they amounted to - -	28,903
„ 1877 „ „ - -	44,667
„ 1878 „ „ - -	36,019
„ 1879 „ „ - -	42,200
„ 1880 „ „ - -	53,925
„ 1881 „ „ - -	82,056

The causes that have led to this great increase during the last five years are, I believe, first, the high prices of gutta and canes that have ruled of late; second, a number of the men thrown out of employment at Coal Point having engaged in collecting the products; and third, the improved facilities of transport provided by local steamers.

13. Turning to class No. 3 one cannot but regret the noticeable fact that the exportation of spices, for which the coast of Borneo, near Labuan, was once so famous, has for many years almost ceased. Indeed, the value of the produce (exclusive of sago) of lands under cultivation that has been imported for re-

* Commonly called mother-of-pearl.

† Béche-de-mer, or sea-slug, a species of Holothuria, much esteemed as a culinary article by the Chinese.

LABUAN.

exportation have been decreasing; the average amount exported during the last nine years (exclusive of 1875) having been 1,355*l.* worth per annum, while that exported during the preceding decade average 1,584*l.* worth per annum. It is evident from the returns under this class that the natives, from whatever cause, have gradually given up the higher cultivation of land, and devoted their attention more and more to the growing of sago, a product easy of cultivation, and for which there is always a demand.

The sago flour entered under head No. 9 of this class is manufactured at two factories on the coast near Labuan. These factories are owned and carried on by Labuan traders. This industry, the manufacture of raw sago into sago flour, was attempted on the Coast in 1862 and in 1867 and subsequently established in 1870.

The only other item of any importance in this class is hides. A small part of these hides ought properly to have been entered under head No. 4 in Section II., as about one seventh of the hides exported are the produce of the Colony.

14. Although the city of Brunei has still a local reputation for the manufacture of brassware, and of wear-resisting, though rather rough, sarongs made from English thread, this table, read with that of the direct exports of manufactures from Brunei* in the Consular Reports, shows how the Brunei manufactures have utterly failed to be able to compete with the manufactures of more civilized nations.

15. Turning to Section II., the products and manufactures of the Colony, a most pleasing fact regarding this important class of exports is seen. It is that the quantities of the staple manufactures of the Settlement, sago flour, exported continued to increase largely till the year 1879, when 32,318*l.* worth of it was exported. The decrease in the two succeeding years was due to the numerous fires which occurred all over the country in the first half of 1879, consequent on a drought of six months' duration, the most severe that has been experienced for many years. These fires increased the amount of sago brought to market during 1879, as many of the palms that were not fully grown, but had been severely scorched or killed by the fire, were cut down, and the raw sago extracted before they began to rot. The quantities of raw sago brought to market during the last two years were also influenced by the lower price sago commanded during that time.

That the exportation of sago flour will increase in a few years, when the sago plantations on the coast have recovered, I have no doubt whatever if only the prices keep fairly good.

That the working of the coal seams in the Island is a matter of the greatest importance to the Colony from a financial point of view there can be no doubt, and that the comparatively large output of coal that was effected during the seven years ending 1870 considerably affected the prosperity of the inhabitants, there is as

---

* These, exclusive of tapioca and sago flour, were for 1881 under 175*l.*

little doubt; but it is a most interesting fact that in no year, except 1863, for the last 20 years, did the value of the coal exported once equal that of the sago exported; indeed, as a rule, it fell very far short of it, as for the last 20 years (19, exclusive of 1875) the value of the coal exports was 83,293*l.*, while that of the sago exported during the same period amounted to 266,647*l.*, or over treble the value of the coal. During the last 10 years (nine, exclusive of 1875) the difference between the amounts of these articles exported is much greater—being coal 17,130*l.* and sago 211,433*l.*, or more than 12 times the value of the coal.

Shipping.

16. On examining the total numbers and tonnage of ships entered and cleared since 1855, it is noted that a great increase took place in 1863, and that this increase went on till the highest figures recorded were reached in 1866. During 1867 the figures were still high, but fell in the following year to what may be called their natural level, and continued so, with limited variation, till 1877, when the numbers began to rise again. During 1878 over 20,000 tons of shipping entered and cleared, and this, comparatively speaking, large amount of shipping continued gradually increasing up to and during last year.

I.—*Shipping entered and cleared, from* 1855 *to* 1881.

Year.	Vessels entered.		Vessels cleared.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1555 - -	19	3,652	17	3,490
1856 - -	42	12,366	40	12,444
1857 - -	35	11,328	32	9,167
1858 - -	21	4,172	20	3,553
1859 - -	24	4,710	23	4,566
1860 - -	27	6,769	20	4,395
1861 - -	20	4,542	25	6,170
1862 - -	17	4,875	17	5,299
1863 - -	25	7,332	24	6,707
1864 - -	25	10,448	25	10,896
1865 - -	26	11,993	25	11,622
1866 - -	55	18,813	55	18,549
1867 - -	33	14,126	33	14,441
1868 - -	28	7,744	27	7,076
1869 - -	19	6,972	18	6,929
1870 - -	23	8,917	25	9,748
1871 - -	24	9,956	23	8,358
1872 - -	26	7,708	26	7,808
1873 - -	22	7,644	20	7,046
1874 - -	38	8,148	41	9,353
1875 - -	38	8,466	38	8,481
1876 - -	35	7,100	35	6,833
1877 - -	33	9,231	32	9,230
1878 - -	34	10,680	34	10,488
1879 - -	38	10,787	40	11,355
1880 - -	50	11,342	48	10,957
1881 - -	54	11,053	57	11,385

Entered and Cleared.

	Tons.
1878 - - - - -	21,168
1879 - - - - -	22,142
1880 - - - - -	22,299
1881 - - - - -	22,438

On referring to the table of exports, the large increase in shipping during the four years ending 1867 is at once seen to be due to the great increase in the export of coal during these years, and that the increase in shipping during the last five years is in accordance with the increase of exports during these years, thus bearing out the remarks made under the previoussection on the late increase of trade in the Island.

Table II. shows how during the last seven years* steam vessels have gradually supplanted sailing vessels, and Table III. how steamers are rapidly supplanting native vessels in the coasting trade. As the steamers take the place of the large native craft running to Sandakan, Sulu, and Palawan, and not so much of the smaller coasting prahus, this transport of goods by steamers instead of native vessels is even much greater than is shown by the table, the number of native vessels only being given each year and not their tonnage. For the last few years the requirements of the British North Borneo Company have considerably increased the number of trips made by steamers on the coast.

II.—*Relative Numbers and Tonnages of Steam and Sailing Vessels entered and cleared during the last Seven Years.*

Year.	Entered.				Cleared.			
	Sailing Vessels.		Steam Vessels.		Sailing Vessels.		Steam Vessels.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1875 -	6	1,575	32	6,891	7	1,673	31	6,808
1876 -	17	2,027	18	5,073	16	1,654	19	5,179
1877 -	7	1,346	26	7,885	8	1,719	24	7,511
1878 -	3	1,737	31	8,943	2	982	32	9,506
1879 -	6	2,271	32	8,516	7	2,726	33	8,629
1880 -	4	1,234	46	10,108	3	962	45	9,995
1881 -	3	987	51	10,066	4	1,259	53	10,126

* Steam and sailing vessels were classed together in the Blue Book Returns before 1875.

III.—Relative Numbers and Tonnages of Steamers, Sailing Vessels, and Native Craft trading between Labuan and the Sulu Archipelago, North Borneo, and adjacent Islands during the last Ten Years.

Year.	Entered.						Cleared.						
	Steam Vessels.		Sailing Vessels.		Total.		Native Craft.†	Steam Vessels.		Sailing Vessels.		Total.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1872 - -	—	—	—	—	1	110*	1,086	—	—	—	—	1	110*
1373 - -	—	—	—	—	3	529*	699	—	—	—	—	4	539*
1874 - -	—	—	—	—	12	1,254*	980	—	—	—	—	14	1,460*
1875 - -	16	1,583	—	—	16	1,583	—	16	1,817	1	340	17	2,157
1876 - -	3	318	14	1,159	17	1,477	948	3	318	15	1,270	18	1,588
1877 - -	5	453	3	333	8	786	1,196	4	438	3	241	7	679
1878 - -	9	1,619	—	—	9	1,619	1,045	9	1,619	—	—	9	1,619
1879 - -	12	1,356	—	—	12	1,356	938	14	1,569	—	—	14	1,569
1880 - -	21	2,753	—	—	21	2,753	688	20	2,640	—	—	20	2,640
1881 - -	22	2,877	—	—	22	2,877	658	24	2,937	—	—	24	2,937

* Not distinguished during these years.

† Capacity from 2½ tons to 6 tons; crew averaging five to eight men.

Mining.

17. The works at Coal Point were stopped in August 1879, and on the 21st of the following February Mr. Cowie obtained a permit to work the coal in the Batu-Arang district, which lies at the head of the harbour, to supply with coal a small steamer belonging to him, which was engaged in the coasting trade. During the year under review the surface working of this seam of coal was continued, 800 tons of clean coal having been raised during the year. The royalty charged is 50 cents per ton of clean coal raised.

Crime.

18. The decrease of crime in the Settlement during the last few years is very apparent from the following table:—

—	1868.	1869.	1870.	1871.	1872.	1873.	1874.	1875.	1876.	1877.	1878.	1879.	1880.	1881
Number of offences reported to the police -	163	164	146	226	230	213	183	224	180	212	235	207	138	124
Number of summary convictions - -	133	129	128	164	189	126	100	121	99	110	115	113	57	66
Number of convictions in Superior Courts -	9	5	12	21	39	40	28	28	25	16	17	21	7	6
Number of civil cases in Small Debt Court -	227	94	181	228	237	288	225	366	360	332	314	315	200	150

Thus the averages for the last two years, as compared with the 12 preceding, are as follows:—

——	1868 to 1879.	1880 and 1881.
Average number of offences reported to the police - - - - -	198	131
Average number of summary convictions -	127	61
Average number of convictions in Superior Courts - - - - -	21	13
Average number of small debt cases -	272	175

This marked decrease in crime, and in the number of petty civil cases, is due, namely, to the absence from the Island of the rough miners and coolies formerly employed at Coal Point, partly also to the fact that fewer turbulent Sulus visit the Settlement in their native boats, partly to the exodus of a certain number of the less settled of the inhabitants to the new stations on the coast, and partly, it is to be hoped, to the gradual civilization and improvement generally of the inhabitants.

Public Health.

19. An epidemic of measles, of a very mild type, appeared early in the year and spread rapidly over the Island and to the opposite coast of Borneo. The type, however, as stated, was very mild, and a case of death resulting from it was, I believe, almost unknown.

A solitary case of small-pox was landed from a gunboat in the harbour; fortunately the patient recovered, and the disease did not spread.

Most if not all of the few cases of Beri-beri that occurred were sent to the civil hospital, and out of the number, nine, so sent, only one died. With the exceptions above noted the health of the settlement has been good during the past year. The types of the prevalent diseases, intermittent and remittent fevers, have been for many years gradually but steadily getting less severe. From my own observation I can state that they have been considerably ameliorated during the last six years, and I attribute this change to the change that has taken place, and continues to take place, over the Island; the gradual disappearance of the jungle and its replacement by grass, in the preservation of which the increasing herds of cattle are most useful.

The rainfall for the year was 147 · 6 inches.

(Signed) P. LEYS,
Labuan, 31st August 1882. Administrator.

HELIGOLAND.

No. 20.

Governor J. T. N. O'BRIEN, C.M.G., to the Right Hon. the EARL OF DERBY.

MY LORD, Heligoland, February 19, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith the Blue Book Returns for the year 1882, and would beg to submit to your Lordship's favourable consideration the following remarks thereon.

Preliminary observations.

2. Our bathing season, on which the prosperity of the inhabitants mainly depends, has been a good one, the number of visitors, exclusive of 2,350 excursionists, having risen from 3,530 in 1881 to 4,912 in 1882; this increase was owing doubtless to the completion of the railway to Cuxhaven, our nearest port, at the same time this does not I fear mean a very great increase of prosperity, for if gauged by the receipts of former years I am sorry to say these figures are somewhat deceptive, for the railway now admits of bathing guests paying shorter visits with greater facility and with less expense, and the almost continuous bad weather in August drove away many before their time, causes which materially affected the revenue of the inhabitants, as well as that of our bathing establishment; the weather having been such as

Bathing season.

HELIGOLAND.

to render it impossible to cross over to Sandy Island, where the bathing mainly takes place, for 20 days in the season, this is a most unusual occurrence.

Fishing.

3. Our only other industry, fishing, yielded in the Spring good returns, but the catch in the Autumn has. also owing to the weather, been very indifferent.

The gales moreover caused very serious damage to our fishing fleet, 15 sloops out of 34 having up to date been sunk this winter (13 in 1882), of which 4 were entirely lost, and the remainder so seriously damaged as to be unable to take part for months in the fishery.

Our lobster fishing has been, as far as I can learn, also indifferent; it is however very difficult to obtain any data on this head, the Heligolanders being very jealous, and never confiding even to their nearest relatives the amount of their daily catch.

Our oyster banks were fished but six times in 1882, owing also to the bad weather, so prevalent during the latter months of the year.

4. Having recently made a full and detailed report on the revenue and expenditure of the Island, I will only summarize the result of the year's operations in the words of my Despatch of the 30th January 1883, paragraph 2, viz:—

"The main features of the year's operations are, that not only have I been able to carry on the Government without having recurrence to a loan (beyond the temporary accommodation of M. 2,500 for a few weeks at the commencement of the season, alluded to in my Despatches), but that while the revenue has exceeded expenditure by M. 2,400 (120*l.*) I have paid off over M. 4,000 (200*l.*) of the Island's debt to a creditor, who in consequence has reduced the interest on the balance of his loan from 9 to 4½ per cent., the normal rate on our liabilities."

Debt.

The Public Debt, as noted above, has been slightly reduced. I can, however, see no hope of further appreciable reduction except it be through some unforeseen circumstance, such as through salvage.

Public works.

Firstly.—Sandy Island, which from its incomparable beach and its situation in mid ocean is our greatest attraction to our visitors, has required attention to endeavour to save it at much as possible from the encroachments of the sea, planting it with grass, and the erection of bush screens, has been carried out to the utmost, our means rendering more permanent steps impossible.

Secondly.—The renewing of most of the 200 steps which separate the upper from the lower town was necessary, and was also a heavy public work in 1882, as was

Thirdly.—The relaying of some of our streets and promenades, towards which the inhabitants concerned contributed their shares of the expense.

Fourthly.—Our school buildings required extensive repairs; and

Fifthly.—In addition to increased accommodation in our bathing establishment the water tower was found to be dangerous, and

had to be rebuilt. Public Works, as well as expenditure of all kinds, had to be kept down to the utmost in order to enable revenue and expenditure to balance. HELIGOLAND.

5. Three Ordinances were passed during the year, the first to raise the import duty on spirits in order to decrease the temptation to drink, while increasing the revenue. Legislation.

The second, to ensure the more punctual payment of taxes and impose penalties for non-payment, this was much needed; and

The third.—A statute of limitations.

6. Several appointments have on vacancy been abolished or amalgamated with others, thus causing a reduction in the expenditure, while salaries formerly debited to the various services have according to the forms sent from England been massed and put under one head. This also accounts for several other modifications this year in the headings of the present return. Civil establishment.

The principal change that has taken place during the year in the personnel of the Colonial Service has been the appointment of Lieut. E. Brietzcke R.N., Coast Guard officer, as magistrate and wreck-receiver, *vice* Mr. W. Mains, who after 12 years' residence, and having rendered great service to this island, has retired, and the amalgamation of the duties of Treasurer and Bathing Director in the person of Mr. K. N. Michels, consequent on the resignation of Mr. Jaspers.

7. The population would appear to have but slightly increased, and though on two occasions infectious disease (scarlet fever) was introduced from the Continent, it did not, owing to our climate, extend, hence the Island still maintains its great sanitary reputation. Deaths have been almost exclusively among the aged, in fact it would seem from the annexed report by our Island physician that contrary to what obtains in most other countries, it is only after the age of 70 is reached that the death rate among Heligolanders, which is otherwise far below the average on the Continent, increases; this, added to the appearance of the population, is a proof, if need be, of the peculiarly healthy nature of our climate consequent on its exceptional position in mid ocean, this state of things is the more to be wondered at when it is considered how closely from intermarriage the population is connected. Population. Sanitary.

The bracing effects of the sea air and the sea bathing on Sandy Island (away from all possible impurities) though little known in England has been long fully appreciated all over the north of Europe, however, it is only of late years that the beneficial effects of a lengthened sojourn here in cases principally of asthma and such complaints is becoming proved by visitors who can live nowhere else, but who enjoy excellent health in Heligoland, where they are enabled to be in the open air even all through this winter with impunity.

8. Owing to the absence of a harbour (*vide* paragraph 2 of my Despatch covering last year's Blue Book) the local trade and fishing must be confined to small vessels which can be hauled up in bad weather; these form our means of communication by Shipping. Sailing vessels.

HELIGOLAND.

sailing craft with the Continent. English fishing smacks call here in great numbers for water and supplies, while occasionally yachts and other coasting vessels anchor in our roads, and a few small craft bring coals occasionally to the Island.

Steamers.

In winter, in addition to the small tugs sent over to fetch the fish when our fleet goes out, we have a weekly steamer with mails from the mainland. Last winter communication was with Cuxhaven; this winter it has been transferred to Bremerhaven, owing to the fish contractor living in that town; for as the fish steamers bring over mails whenever they come to the Island, this gives us extra communication with the main land without extra expense. In summer we have daily communication with Cuxhaven in connection with the first down and the last up train to and from Hamburg, in addition there is a steamer three times direct from Hamburg and twice from Bremerhaven, in all 12 steamers a week from the Continent exclusive of excursion steamers and tugs that often anchor in our roads.

These steamers made 194 trips last year, viz., from Cuxhaven 121, Hamburgh 45, and Bremerhaven 28.

In 1882, we had no visits from any English Man of War except the Coast Guard tender, which was here twice, the Trinity Yacht came over to the island once, while, besides the Dutch vessel in charge of the fisheries, we were hardly a week from May to October without a representation of the German navy in the harbour.

Education.

10. The schools are well attended, so much so that the classes are too large for the Staff the Island can afford. Heligolandish (the old Anglo-Saxon) being an unwritten language, German has for years been adopted as the medium of tuition, English being but very little and indifferently taught in the two upper classes. I am doing what I can to encourage proficiency in our tongue, if only to enable the Colony to supply its own properly qualified officials, nearly all the higher posts having now to be filled by foreigners.

11. The financial and general position and importance of the island and its establishments having formed the subject of numerous reports to your Lordship during the last year I shall no further prolong this Despatch.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon.
The Earl of Derby,
&c. &c.

(Signed) J. T. N. O'BRIEN,
Governor.

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PAPERS

RELATING TO

HER MAJESTY'S COLONIAL POSSESSIONS.

REPORTS FOR 1882.

(*In continuation of* [C.-3642.] *of June* 1883.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
August 1883.

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1883.

[C.—3794.]

TABLE OF CONTENTS.

No. in Series.	COLONY.	Year.	Page.
1	Ceylon - - - - -	1882	3
2	Hong Kong - - - - -	„	22
3	Labuan - - - - -	„	25
4	Barbados - - - - -	„	31
5	St. Vincent - - - - -	„	43
6	Tobago - - - - -	„	47
7	St. Lucia - - - - -	„	60
8	Antigua - - - - -	„	71
9	Montserrat - - - - -	„	74
10	St. Kitts - - - - -	„	78
11	Nevis - - - - -	„	84
12	Virgin Islands - - - -	„	88
13	Dominica - - - - -	„	90
14	Jamaica - - - - -	1881–2	101
15	„ (Paper by D. Morris, Esq.) - -	—	137
16	Turks Islands - - - -	1882	163
17	British Guiana - - - -	„	171
18	Trinidad - - - - -	„	191
19	Bahamas - - - - -	„	198
20	Bermuda - - - - -	„	211
21	Cape of Good Hope - - -	„	217
22	St. Helena - - - - -	„	236
23	Lagos - - - - -	„	239
24	„ (Sanitary Report) - - -	—	249
25	Malta - - - - -	1882	257
26	Gibraltar - - - - -	„	264

CEYLON.

No. 1.

Lieutenant-Governor DOUGLAS, C.M.G., to the Right Hon. the EARL OF DERBY.

Queen's House, Colombo, Ceylon,
August 30, 1883.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith the Blue Book of Ceylon for 1882, and to submit the following report on its contents.

2. The coffee crop, which materially affects indirectly several of the most important sources of Colonial revenue, was slightly larger than that of the preceding year, the exports for 1882 and 1881 being 464,703 cwts. and 436,991 cwts. respectively; but the average value of the article dropped from Rs. 42 ½ to Rs. 31 ½, showing a total decrease of Rs. 3,388,622. There was no pearl fishery during the year, and the revenue of the Colony was exceeded by the expenditure to the amount of Rs. 333,094. There appears to be no near prospect of the coffee industry regaining the position which for many years contributed so largely to the financial prosperity of the Island, and several years must elapse before the exports of tea and other new products can compensate the lamentable decrease in the production of coffee; it will, therefore, be necessary for some time to come not only to avoid any increase of the responsibilities of the Colony, but to exercise the severest economy in every branch of the public service. It is at the same time a satisfaction to be able to report that the state of the public health was good during the year, and the paddy harvests generally excellent.

Revenue and Expenditure.

3. The revenue for 1882 amounted to Rs. 12,161,570 2¼, or at the par of 1*s.* 10½*d.* to the rupee, officially adopted for purposes of comparison with the results of former years, to 1,140,147*l.* 3*s.* 10*d.*, showing a decrease of Rs. 1,524,921 95½, or 142,961*l.* 8*s.* 7¾*d.*, on the revenue for 1881. The expenditure on the votes of the year amounted to Rs. 12,494,664 24½, or 1,171,374*l.* 15*s.* 6*d.*, showing a decrease of Rs. 1,038,594 81½, or 97,368*l.* 5*s.* 3*d.*, on the corresponding expenditure for the preceding year. In addition to this amount there were expended during the year a sum of Rs. 30,209 7, or 2,832*l.* 2*s.* 0*d.*, from unexpended balances of previous years brought forward for expenditure in 1882, and a sum of

CEYLON.

Rs. 123,442 95, or 11,572*l.* 15*s.* 6½*d.*, out of the funds appropriated by the Surplus Funds Ordinance No. 13 of 1879. The total expenditure of the year, exclusive of the outlay on the Breakwater, the Railway Extension, and the Colombo Waterworks, the cost of which is specially provided for and does not figure in the annual expenditure, amounted to Rs. 12,648,316 26½, or 1,185,779*l.* 13*s.*, showing a decrease of Rs. 1,330,533 20½, or 124,737*l.* 9*s.* 9¼*d.*, on the corresponding total for 1881. The revenue of the year fell short of the expenditure under the votes of the year by Rs. 333,094 22¼, or 31,227*l.* 11*s.* 8*d.*, to which should be added a sum of Rs. 26,991 62, or 2,530*l.* 9*s.* 3¾*d.*, which has been brought forward from the votes of the year for expenditure in 1883, making a total deficit of revenue under expenditure Rs. 360,085 84½, or 33,758*l.* 0*s.* 11¼*d.*

4. The following are the principal items of increase and decrease:—

Revenue.

5. The decrease of Rs. 14,447 under the heading of "arrears of revenue" is due to the prevailing depression and the consequent difficulty of realising the full value of securities hypothecated by renters in default.

Customs exhibit a decrease of Rs. 185,933 18, owing to a decline in the importation of grain and other dutiable goods, and a decrease of Rs. 3,053 85 in the amount of royalty collected at the Customs premises on plumbago.

Port and Harbour Dues show increases of Rs. 9,163 92 and Rs. 15,101 25 under "port clearances and pilotage," owing to the increased tonnage of the vessels frequenting the ports of the Island.

Under *Land Sales* there is a large falling off of Rs. 137,453 54, referable to the decreased demand for land arising from the general depression.

Land Revenue shows an increase under the sub-head "paddy," which is counterbalanced by a decrease under the sub-heads "fine grain" and "gardens rented."

Licenses.—The large decrease of Rs. 69,549 56 under "arrack, rum, and toddy" is partly compensated by an increase of Rs. 11,740 under "stills," and the apparent increase of Rs. 41,030 under "retail of salt" is discounted by the subtraction of a corresponding amount under the head "sale of Government property," the collection on account of salt in the Jaffna district in 1881 having been made in Aumany.

Stamps.—The prevailing depression in business is accountable for the large decrease of Rs. 52,042 20 under the head "general stamps."

Sale of Government Property.—The decrease of Rs. 23,878 58 under "salt" is only apparent, the revenue from the sale of the article having exceeded that of the previous year; but, as explained above, a portion of the revenue to the amount of Rs. 41,030 is entered under "Licenses, retail of salt."

Colonial Store exhibits a decrease of Rs. 202,381 99, resulting from the transfer to revenue in 1881 of the value of stationery in the Colonial store when the alteration was made in the mode of paying and accounting for it, an operation that of course cannot be repeated, and the falling off of Rs. 80,170 82½ under "timber" is due to the diminished demand for timber in the market, and to the necessary restriction of the operations of the Public Works Department.

Miscellaneous Receipts.—The decrease of Rs. 98,041 67 under "deficiency of troops" arises from the Colony having been provided with her full complement of troops during the year.

Pearl Fishery.—There was a very successful fishery in 1881, and there was none in 1882, hence the decrease of Rs. 598,903 56 under this head.

Railway Receipts suffered from the general stagnation of trade, and there is a falling off under this head of Rs. 241,597 63.

Expenditure.

6. *On Establishments*, under which heading are included certain contingencies and allowances, besides fixed and provisional salaries, there are increases amounting to Rs. 110,255 92 and decreases amounting to Rs. 96,380 79, showing a nett increase of Rs. 13,875 13. This nett increase is explained by the increase of Rs. 69,254 12 under the sub-head Postal and Telegraph Department, which is due to the transfer of the cost of making provision for the payment of the staff employed on the telegraphs from electric telegraph to establishments. If this item be deducted for purposes of comparison from the cost of establishments a nett decrease will be shown under establishments of Rs. 55,378 99.

Services, exclusive of Establishments, show increases amounting to Rs. 73,206 30 and decreases amounting to Rs. 1,125,676 24½, or a nett decrease of Rs. 1,052,469 94½.

Revenue Services.—A large expenditure was incurred in 1881 on account of the importation of salt from India and on the pearl fishery. The absence of corresponding charges in 1882 account for the decrease under this head of Rs. 177,505 63. The apparent increase of Rs. 10,870 76 under the head "hospitals and sanitation" is accounted for by the transfer to this head of the wages of attendants previously paid under the head "provisional salaries."

Police Services show a decrease of Rs. 39,491, of which a considerable portion is due to the votes for 1881 having been debited with the cost of arms and uniforms obtained in 1880, but not paid for till the following year. The increase of Rs. 16,223 50 under the head "prison services" is caused by an increase in the number of prisoners confined during the year.

Roads, Streets, Bridges, and Canals exhibit a decrease of Rs. 176,855 consequent on the continued fall in the Colonial revenue

CEYLON.

having necessitated a curtailment of the votes for expenditure under this head. The public buildings and roads have, however, been kept in proper repair, and all previously existing lines of communication effectively maintained.

Interest.—The first half-yearly contribution towards the sinking fund for the extinction of the loans raised on debentures for the construction of the Colombo Harbour Works was paid this year, which accounts for the increase of Rs. 24,775 05 under this heading. The decrease of Rs. 156,926 85 under the heading "Colonial store" is caused by the cost of stationery issued to the several public departments having been charged to and paid from the votes of such departments, instead of being paid as formerly in a lump sum under this head.

Government Vessels.—The Colonial steamer "Serendib" did not require such extensive repairs in 1882 as in the preceding year, hence the reduction of Rs. 116,181 70 under this head.

Railway Services.—The decrease of Rs. 250,614 65 under this head is chiefly owing to the cessation of the contribution towards the sinking fund for the redemption of the debentures issued on loans obtained for the construction of the railway from Colombo to Kandy.

Electric Telegraph.—The decrease of Rs. 86,387 92 is chiefly due to the transfer of the salaries of the staff from this head to "provisional salaries."

Exchange.—The decrease of Rs. 15,337 20 under this heading is accounted for by the fact that almost all the charges incurred in England during 1882 were debited to their respective votes at the current rate of exchange.

Assets and Liabilities.

7. The assets of the Ceylon Government on the 31st December 1882 amounted to Rs. 10,723,792 34¼, or 1,005,355*l.* 10*s.* 7½*d.*, and the liabilities on the same date to Rs. 9,379,940 68, or 879,369*l.* 8*s.* 9*d.*, and there was thus an excess of assets over liabilities of Rs. 1,343,851 66¼, or 125,986*l.* 1*s.* 10½*d.*

8. The debt of the Colony on the same date amounted to 1,687,477*l.* 3*s.* 2*d.*, consisting of 100,000*l.*, being balance of the 700,000*l.* raised under the Ordinances Nos. 19 of 1862 and 7 of 1864 for the construction of the railway from Colombo to Kandy; 198,100*l.*, being the sum of 200,000*l.* due on debentures issued under Ordinance No. 1 of 1876 for the improvement of the Harbour of Colombo, less 1,900*l.* repaid; 114,377*l.* 3*s.* 2*d.*, being the sum of 125,000*l.* borrowed from the Public Works Loan Commissioners for the same purpose, less 10,622*l.* 16*s.* 10*d.* repaid; 275,000*l.*, being the amount raised by the sale of deben-

tures under Ordinance No. 8 of 1877 for the construction of the railway from Kandy to Matale; and 1,000,000*l.*, being the amount due on debentures issued under Ordinance No. 9 of 1878 for the construction of the railway from Nawalapitiya to Nanu Oya. It should be mentioned as regards the first above-named item of 100,000*l.* that sufficient funds were in the hands of the trustees of the sinking fund on 31st December 1882 to extinguish the debt on its falling due.

Imports and Exports.

9. Exclusive of specie in each case, the imports of the year were valued at Rs. 41,761,364 99 and the exports at Rs. 36,339,841 36, showing respectively a decrease of Rs. 1,377,489 13 and an increase of Rs. 684,443 42 in comparison with the corresponding totals for 1881.

There is some reason for satisfaction in the increase of the value of the exports, especially in view of the fact that coffee figures for a decrease in value of Rs. 3,388,622, but it should be remembered that 1881, the year with which comparison is made, was an exceedingly bad year; if comparison be made with 1880, in which year the value of the exports had already sunk far below that attained in previous years, the value of the exports for 1882 shows a falling off of Rs. 14,086,370 56.

10. *Imports.*—Cotton manufactures, twist, and thread show a total value of Rs. 4,751,877, and the sum collected as duty on the quantity cleared from the Customs amounts to Rs. 212,166, or Rs. 11,082 less than the collection for 1881.

Coal and Coke show an increase of some 64,000 tons, the import being 168,224¼ tons as against 104,362¼ tons in 1881.

Grain.—There is a general decline in all descriptions of grain, resulting in a decrease of revenue of Rs. 123,455 and of value Rs. 1,408,690. The other items of imports do not call for special remark.

11. *Exports.*—The amount of coffee exported is shown as 464,703 cwts. against 436,991 in 1881 but owing to a fall in prices the value is represented by only Rs. 17,984,640 as against Rs. 21,373,262. Cinchona, cinnamon, tea, and unmanufactured tobacco figure for increases in value to the amounts Rs. 2,584,556, Rs. 86,384, Rs. 268,812, and Rs. 238,871 respectively, while the products of the cocoanut also show an increase of Rs. 243,163. The quantity of cinchona exported during the year was 4,655,944 lbs., of which 3,226,552 lbs. was shipped to the United Kingdom, and 1,338,275 lbs. to Italy. The quantity of tea exported during the year was 697,268 lbs., valued at Rs. 591,805, and of this

CEYLON.

660,697 lbs. was shipped to the United Kingdom. The quantity of cocoa exported was 864 cwts., and exceeded that for 1881 by 582 cwts. valued at Rs. 31,083, and the quantity of Liberian coffee shipped was 1,270 cwts., valued at Rs. 46,879.

12. *Shipping.*—As compared with 1881 there is an increase of 71,927 tons inwards and 70,379 tons outwards.

Public Works.

13. The expenditure of the Public Works Department, including the sums contributed for grant-in-aid roads under the Ordinance, Rs. 35,363 from appropriation from Loan Board Funds by special Ordinance and Rs. 18,015 48 from Colombo Water Works Funds, amounted to Rs. 2,284,969 43, or Rs. 283,491 94 less than the expenditure of the preceding year. The cost of the establishment, including salaries, fixed and provisional, office contingencies, and allowances, but exclusive of travelling allowances and other general charges, the details of which are given under departmental charges and "miscellaneous" was Rs. 292,575 40, or about 12 · 80 per cent. of the total expenditure of the Department. If to this be added the sum of Rs. 49,623 12, the amoun t of travelling allowances drawn during the year, the total cost of the establishment is shown as Rs. 342,198 52, or nearly 15 per cent. of the total expenditure. The proportionate cost of the establishment would have been even higher than this if some of the staff had not been lent to the contractors for the railway extension of Nanu Oya. It is evident, therefore, that the cost of the establishment is unduly high, and it is intended to effect considerable reductions as vacancies occur. A length of 28 · 07 miles, including miles 8 · 90 of the Labugama road constructed in connexion with the Colombo Water Works, was added to the mileage of the principal roads during the year, and the whole of the mileage, 2,836 · 47 miles, was maintained in good order. The average cost of the up-keep of the principal roads was Rs. 491 · 33 per mile as against Rs. 519 · 05 in 1881. The cost of the maintenance of the irrigation works was Rs. 38,521 · 06, that of the salaries and allowances of Irrigation officers, employed chiefly on Irrigation surveys and supervision of labour on village tanks, was Rs. 26,379 · 92, and the expenditure in construction on Irrigation works was Rs. 19,276 · 59. The subjoined tables xhibit—(1) a classification of the expenditure under the headings establishment, construction, up-keep, improvements, and departmental and miscellaneous charges; (2) the funds from which the expenditure has been met; (3) the expenditure incurred in the several provinces; and (4) an abstract of the expenditure in the various classes of Public Works in each of the provinces of the Island.

(1.)

——	1882.	1881.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.
Establishment, including allowances and contingencies	292,575 40	311,182 89	—	18,607 49
Up-keep of roads, bridges, canals, and irrigation works	1,539,401 17	1,589,928 63½	—	50,527 46½
Repairs of buildings	102,961 17	85,769 65½	17,191 51½	—
Departmental charges and miscellaneous	124,720 11	112,602 17	12,117 94	—
New works and buildings	103,667 54	113,645 76	—	9,978 22
Alterations and additions to buildings	9,100 41	6,918 89	2,181 52	—
New roads and additions to roads	65,395 75	208,598 19	—	143,202 44
New bridges	1,491 37	51,658 22	—	50,166 85
Inland navigation	—	—	—	—
Irrigation works	45,656 51	88,156 96	—	42,500 45
Total	2,284,969 43	2,568,461 37	31,490 97½	314,982 91½

(2.)

——	1882.	1881.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts
Supply Bill, 1882	1,800,705 09	1,960,973 79	—	160,268 70
Supplementary Supply Bill, 1882	20,227 44	24,587 43	—	4,359 99
Amounts in deposit	42,400 54	—	42,400 54	—
Unexpended balances of previous years	23,107 27	54,951 94	—	31,844 67
Road Ordinance funds	251,301 96	234,246 49	17,055 47	—
Private contribution	75,913 94	84,738 03	—	8,824 09
Loan board funds	35,362 90	60,611 21	—	25,248 31
From other departments	17,934 81	58,808 09	—	40,873 28
From vote for Colombo waterworks	18,015 48	86,425 74	—	68,410 26
Surplus funds	—	3,118 65	—	3,118 65
Total	2,284,969 43	2,568,461 37	59,456 01	342,947 95

(3.)

——	1882.	1881.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.
Western Province	721,334 05	800,176 38	—	78,842 33
North-western Province	180,698 85	169,452 91½	11,245 93½	—
Southern Province	227,683 25	216,296 53	11,386 72	—
Eastern Province	124,531 63	157,074 98	—	32,543 35
Northern Province	138,767 96	223,148 27	—	84,380 31
North Central Province	103,417 78	110,149 49½	—	6,731 71½
Central Province	788,535 91	892,162 80	—	103,626 89
Total	2,284,969 43	2,568,461 37	22,632 65½	306,124 59½

Heads of Service.	Western Province.	North-western Province.	Southern Province.	Eastern Province.	Northern Province.	North Central Province.	Central Province.	Total.
Works and Buildings.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.
New works and buildings	*4,600 00* 58,933 68	*700 0* 25,776 94	*3,900 0* 10,811 06	- - -	- - -	- - -	3,545 86	*4,600 00* 99,067 54
Alterations and additions to buildings	*1,370 0* 3,910 87	- - -	*200 0* 995 74	- - -	- - -	*2,393 80* - - -	*200 0* 30 0	*4,163 80* 4,936 61
Repairs to buildings	*1,639 05* 40,179 34	*1,639 05* 5,060 87	*1,287 91* 7,411 86	*3,497 38* 7,025 35	6,420 64	*674 56* 5,903 67	*1,486 03* 22,374 51	*8,584 93* 94,376 24
Roads, Streets, Bridges, and Canals.							*8,491 62*	*8,491 62*
New roads	6,860 4		- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	45,172 45	52,032 49
Additions and improvements to roads	- - -	- - -	- - -	*3,999 11*	- - -	*872 53*	- - -	*4,871 64*
Up-keep of roads	*72,992 64* 294,195 89	*35,289 82* 63,148 75	*32,733 86* 113,455 02	*9,353 60* 59,179 15	*29,028 54* 70,656 84	*9,079 69* 33,223 48	*98,854 42* 502,875 78	*287,332 57* 1,136,734 91
New bridges	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	1,491 37	- - -	- - -	1,491 37
Repair of bridges	15,575 42	4,930 74	8,572 10	2,758 63	3,455 24	1,330 02	10,615 90	47,238 05
Inland navigation	*6,825 16* 8,527 45	*1,346 21* 9,937 95	- - -	- - -	*999 97* 1,937 84	- - -	- - -	*9,171 34* 20,403 24
Irrigation Works.								
New works	3,245 19	3,707 07	10,178 45	315 63	- - -	19,341 15	*8,869 65*	45,656 51
Up-keep works	940 53	2,850 08	12,723 18	13,657 14	295 03	6,196 98	1,858 12	38,521 06
Departmental Charges.								
Ferry boats	2,542 06	- - -	7 70	814 31	- - -	- - -	- - -	3,364 07
General service	9,518 98	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	1,099 36	10,618 34
Miscellaneous	53,648 22	10,326 43	6,361 94	5,168 24	5,395 16	3,964 80	25,872 91	110,737 70
	81,187 80 498,077 67	*33,975 03* 125,738 83	*33,121 77* 170,517 05	*16,850 09* 88,917 82	*30,028 51* 89,652 12	*13,020 58* 69,960 10	*109,032 07* 622,314 54	*327,215 90* 1,665,178 13
Establishment	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	292,575 40
Total Rs.	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	*327,215 90* 1,957,753 53

The figures in *Italic* denote expenditure under the Road Ordinance Funds and Private Contribution.

The furniture of the Queen's Houses is reported to have been suitably maintained, but the structures are stated by the Director of Public Works to be in need of considerable repairs.

Breakwater.

14. The breakwater was lengthened during the year by 895 feet, at a cost, including that of dredging a portion of the harbour, of Rs. 951,616, bringing the total length to 3,713 feet and the total cost to Rs. 6,801,210 24 at the end of the year.

Survey Department.

15. The total amount realised by the sale and settlement of Crown lands, including survey fees, is reported by the Surveyor-General to have been Rs. 351,976, or Rs. 82,687 less than the corresponding total in 1881. The decrease is shared by all the Provinces, except the Northern and North-western, and the largest falling off is shown in the Central Province. The gross expenditure of the Department from its own votes was Rs. 373,087

or Rs. 21,111 in excess of the earnings, and it may be noted that this is the first year since 1853 during which the expenditure has exceeded the revenue. From the gross expenditure should be deducted for the purpose of ascertaining the cost of the surveys for sale and settlement of Crown lands a sum of Rs. 55,391 34 expended on coast and harbour surveys and other miscellaneous services, which leaves Rs. 317,695 60 as the cost of the department in regard to the Revenue of Rs. 351,976. In the following tables will be found the details of the lots alienated in the several provinces, and an abstract of the lands disposed of to Europeans and natives respectively, and a return of all lands disposed of in each province during the year.

(1.)

ABSTRACT showing the Number of LOTS, ACREAGE, PURCHASE AMOUNT, and FEES of LANDS sold or otherwise alienated from the Crown in the respective PROVINCES during the year 1882.

Provinces.	Land sold and granted at Half Value.					Lots sold on Certificates, Free Grants, &c.			Total Receipts for each Province.
	No. of Lots.	Extent.	Purchase Amount.	Average Rate per Acre.	Fees.	No. of Lots.	Extent.	Fees.	
		A. R. P.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.		A. R. P.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.
Central - -	397	2,262 2 22	38,063 0	16 82	5,204 0	104	275 3 11	821 90	44,088 90
Western -	2,089	11,184 3 20	169,833 85	15 18	26,411 90	1,249	2,580 1 29	8,019 0	*204,264 75
Eastern - -	137	1,189 1 11	19,965 0	16 79	3,124 70	11	19 0 12	30 0	23,119 70
Southern -	300	1,137 2 20	15,209 25	13 37	3,095 60	45	74 3 23	203 50	18,508 35
Northern -	489	1,282 2 38	19,228 66	14 99	3,871 90	—	—	—	23,100 56
North-western	215	1,983 1 7	27,363 50	13 79	4,599 0	107	230 1 6	708 0	32,670 50
North Central	57	224 2 10	3,383 50	15 04	634 0	—	—	—	4,017 50
Fees for tracings, &c. -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2,205 67
Total -	3,684	19,265 0 8	293,046 76	15 21	46,941 10	1,516	3,180 2 1	9,782 40	351,975 93

(2.)

ABSTRACT of LANDS sold and granted and otherwise disposed of to EUROPEANS and NATIVES in 1882.

Provinces.	Europeans.			Natives.		
	Lots.	Extent.	Amount and Fees.	Lots.	Extent.	Amount and Fees.
		A. R. P.	Rs. cts.		A. R. P.	Rs. cts.
Central - - -	64	1,579 1 22	30,980 96	436	959 0 11	13,107 94
Western - - -	48	2,883 0 31	40,291 90	3,290	10,882 0 18	*163,972 85
Eastern - - -	1	25 0 18	322 60	147	1,183 1 5	22,797 10
Southern - - -	1	50 2 0	612 60	344	1,162 0 3	17,895 75
Northern - -	—	—	—	489	1,282 2 38	23,.00 56
North-western - -	27	232 0 1	3,263 10	295	1,981 2 12	29,407 40
North Central - -	—	—	—	57	224 2 10	4,017 50
Total -	142	4,770 0 32	75,471 16	5,058	17,675 1 17	274,299 10

* Including Chenas.

(3.)

RETURN of LANDS sold or otherwise disposed of during the Year 1882.

Provinces.	Crown Lands sold.				Encroachments sold or given at a Valuation.				Granted at Half Value.				Old Grants or Old Grants made in terms of Minute of 8th Aug. 1844.			Free Grants or Settlements for Certificates against the Crown.			Total Results of Sales, &c. of each Province during 1882.				
	Lots.	Extent.	Amount.	Fees.	Lots.	Extent.	Amount.	Fees.	Lots.	Extent.	Amount.	Fees.	Lots.	Extent.	Fees.	Lots.	Extent.	Fees.	Lots.	Extent.	Amount.	Fees.	Amount including Fees.
		Acres.	Rs.	Rs.		Acrs.	Rs.	Rs.		Acrs.	Rs.	Rs.		Acrs.	Rs.		Acres.	Rs.		Acres.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Central - -	253	1,920	33,511	4,179	52	119	2,044	364	92	223	2,508	661	—	—	—	104	276	822	501	2,538	38,063	6,026	44,089
Western - -	1,833	10,787	163,401	25,071	—	—	—	—	256	398	6,433	1,341	—	—	—	1,249	2,580	8,019	3,338	13,765	169,834	34,431	204,265
Eastern - -	106	931	15,774	2,436	31	259	4,191	688	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	11	19	30	148	1,209	19,965	3,154	23,119
Southern - -	203	919	10,951	2,443		199	3,871	572	25	20	387	80	—	—	—	45	75	204	345	1,213	15,209	3,299	18,508
Northern - -	489	1,283	19,229	3,872	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	489	1,283	19,229	3,872	23,101
North-western -	178	1,907	26,338	4,367	—	—	—	—	37	77	1,025	232	—	—	—	107	230	708	322	2,214	27,363	5,307	32,670
North Central -	57	225	3,383	634	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	57	225	3,383	634	4,017
Fees for tracings, &c. - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2,206	2,206
Total -	3,119	17,972	272,587	43,002	155	577	10,106	1,624	410	718	10,353	2,314	—	—	—	1,516	3,180	9,783	5,200	22,447	293,046	58,929	351,975

Railway.

16. The length of line open for public traffic was the same as in 1881, viz., 136¾ miles, exclusive of the line for the carriage of materials for the breakwater works. The total earnings of the year are returned by the traffic manager at Rs. 2,632,628, or Rs. 250,078 less than the earnings of 1881, and the working expenses at Rs. 1,361,115 as against Rs. 1,357,893 for the preceding year. The main line from Colombo to Kandy shows a profit on receipts over working expenses of 6·4 on the capital cost, the branch line from Peradeniya to Nawalapitiya a profit of 2·8 per cent., the branch line from Kandy to Matale a loss of Rs. 7,002, and the coast line from Colombo to Kalutara a profit of 2·6 per cent.

Legislation.

The following Ordinances were passed during the year:—

No. 1.—An Ordinance to declare the consent of the Legislature to the erection of a lighthouse on Minicoy island, and to the levy of dues thereof, and to fix the dues payable in respect of the Minicoy, and Great and Little Basses lights.

No. 2.—An Ordinance to substitute the currency of rupees and cents in certain Ordinances where sums of money are mentioned in terms of British currency.

This Ordinance was rendered necessary to repair an omission brought to light by a decision of the Supreme Court.

No. 3.—An Ordinance to amend "the Lunacy Ordinance, 1873."

This Ordinance provides for an appeal to the Supreme Court by certain persons against any order made by a District Court under the provisions of the Lunacy Ordinance, 1873.

No. 4. An Ordinance relating to the emigration of native labourers from this island under contract of service.

This Ordinance forbids the emigration of natives of the island under contract of service to be performed in any British or Foreign Colony without the limits of the island unless emigration to such Colony shall have been previously declared by the Governor with the advice of the Executive Council to be lawful, and the Government is thereby empowered to prevent emigration under contract of service to any place where due provision has not been made for the protection of the emigrants.

No. 5.—An Ordinance to grant facilities for depositing small savings at interest.

This Ordinance provides for the establishment of savings banks in connexion with post offices.

No. 6.—An Ordinance to remove doubts as to certain powers of local boards under the Local Board of Health and Improvement Ordinance, 1876.

No. 7.—An Ordinance to prevent unlicensed gemming upon Crown lands.

CEYLON.

No. 8.—An Ordinance further to amend "the Village Communities Ordinance, 1871."

This Ordinance gives to village councils certain further powers which the working of the previous Village Communities Ordinances had shown to be necessary.

No. 9.—An Ordinance to amend "the Medical Wants Ordinance, 1880," and to repeal "the Medical Wants Ordinance, 1880, Amendment Ordinance, 1881."

This Ordinance provides for the creation by an export duty on estate produce of a fund to defray the cost of the medical care of estate labourers, and empowers the Governor to appoint superintending medical officers and medical assistants and to convert existing district hospitals into dispensaries.

No. 10.—An Ordinance for making provision for the contingent services for the year 1883.

No. 11.—An Ordinance to facilitate the recovery of possession of tenements after due determination of the tenancy.

This Ordinance was introduced on the representation of an unofficial member of the undue difficulty experienced by landlords under the existing law in regaining possession of their tenements, and the operation of the Ordinance is confined to towns.

No. 12.—An Ordinance for making final provision for the supplementary contingent charges for the year 1881.

No. 13.—An Ordinance for continuing the Ordinance No. 7 of 1881, intituled "An Ordinance to make temporary provision for "securing the status of French mail-steamers within the ports of "this Colony."

No. 14.—An Ordinance to establish further tolls and to discontinue certain tolls.

No. 15.—An Ordinance for making provision for the supplementary contingent charges for the year 1882.

No. 16.—An Ordinance to authorise and regulate the use of telephones in this Island.

Public Health.

18. The principal civil medical officer reports that the public health was generally satisfactory in spite of the presence of small-pox in several parts of the island, and the number of deaths is returned by the Registrar-General as 54,683 as against 75,012 in 1881. The expenditure on Government hospitals during the year was Rs. 246,880 55, or Rs. 4,864 31 less than the corresponding expenditure for 1881. The cost of the establishment, salaries, fixed and provisional, was Rs. 198,461 48, or Rs. 14,010 less than that of 1881, and the total expenditure of the department under all heads was Rs. 511,074 21, showing a decrease of Rs. 20,035 89 on the total expenditure for 1881, viz., Rs. 530,402 38. The statistics of the year, as shown in the return of the Government hospitals, are summarised in the table which is subjoined:—

SUMMARY of GENERAL ANNUAL RETURN relating to twenty-four Civil Hospitals, the De Soyz, a Lying-in Hospital, the Lunatic and the Leper Asylums, the Lock Hospital at Galle, and the Police Hospital at Maradana for the Year 1882.

SUMMARY of GENERAL ANNUAL RETURN relating to twenty-four Civil Hospitals, the Galle, and the Police Hospital at

Provinces.	I. General Diseases A.	General Diseases B.	II. Local Diseases. 1. Nervous System.	2. Eye.	3. Ear.	4. Nose.	5. Circulatory System.	6. Absorbent System.	7. Ductless Glands.	8. Respiratory System.	9. Digestive System.	10. Urinary System.	11. Generative System.	12. Organs of Locomotion.	13. Cellular Tissue.	14. Cutaneous System.	III. Conditions.	IV. Poisons.	V. Wounds and Injuries.	VI. Surgical operations.
Western Province.																				
Remained 31st December 1881	16	187	260	2	–	–	3	–	–	6	42	18	9	3	4	81	11	1	30	–
Since admitted - - -	654	1,525	222	35	9	9	37	4	–	244	952	468	161	46	149	1,017	253	4	720	3
Total - - -	670	1,712	482	37	9	9	40	4	–	250	994	486	170	49	153	1,098	264	5	750	3
Discharged - - -	636	1,406	166	36	9	8	29	4	–	213	690	466	153	45	138	1,034	184	4	689	2
Died - - -	24	120	39	1	–	–	7	–	–	28	280	5	9	–	11	24	63	1	40	–
Remaining 31st December 1882	10	186	277	–	–	1	4	–	–	9	24	15	8	4	4	40	17	–	21	1
North-western Province.																				
Remained 31st December 1881	17	14	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	15	4	1	1	–	67	6	–	6	–
Since admitted - - -	380	423	22	2	1	3	6	1	–	72	258	70	19	26	56	741	154	3	138	5
Total - - -	397	437	23	2	1	3	6	1	–	73	273	74	20	27	56	808	160	3	144	5
Discharged - - -	377	378	17	2	1	2	2	1	–	50	204	69	18	26	52	761	135	2	129	4
Died - - -	11	40	4	–	–	1	2	–	–	17	61	2	1	1	1	4	19	1	9	1
Remaining 31st December 1882	9	19	2	–	–	–	2	–	–	6	8	3	1	–	3	43	6	–	6	–
Southern Province.																				
Remained 31st December 1881	8	23	–	1	–	–	2	–	–	2	10	8	10	2	2	45	–	–	20	–
Since admitted - - -	234	524	26	13	3	4	7	1	–	65	146	199	51	31	67	502	22	4	382	–
Total - - -	242	547	26	14	3	4	9	1	–	67	156	207	61	33	69	547	22	4	402	–
Discharged - -	232	499	21	14	2	4	7	1	–	60	117	195	58	29	65	512	21	3	384	–
Died - - -	6	27	4	–	–	–	1	–	–	7	37	2	3	1	–	4	1	1	9	–
Remaining 31st December 1882	4	21	1	–	1	–	1	–	–	–	2	10	–	3	4	31	–	–	9	–
Northern Province.																				
Remained 31st December 1881	3	7	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	5	1	–	1	–	52	1	–	–	–
Since admitted - - -	98	137	3	6	2	2	–	–	–	20	71	21	5	50	20	533	17	–	63	1
Total - - -	101	144	3	6	2	2	–	–	–	21	76	22	5	51	20	585	18	–	63	1
Discharged - - -	92	132	3	6	2	2	–	–	–	18	65	21	5	46	18	521	18	–	60	1
Died - - -	2	2	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	8	–	–	–	1	2	–	–	2	–
Remaining 31st December 1882	7	10	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	2	3	1	–	5	1	62	–	–	1	–
Eastern Province.																				
Remained 31st December 1881	7	11	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	1	1	–	–	14	5	–	2	1
Since admitted - - -	89	92	8	5	–	–	–	–	–	12	71	12	–	2	9	105	17	–	63	–
Total - - -	96	103	8	5	–	–	–	–	–	12	72	13	1	2	9	119	22	–	65	1
Discharged - - -	93	88	6	5	–	–	–	–	–	9	61	13	1	2	9	104	18	–	65	1
Died - - -	1	7	2	–	–	–	–	–	–	3	9	–	–	–	–	1	4	–	–	–
Remaining 31st December 1882	2	8	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	2	–	–	–	–	14	–	–	–	–
Central Province.																				
Remained 31st December 1881	23	48	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	5	27	9	1	–	2	43	19	–	16	1
Since admitted - - -	986	1,109	58	24	–	1	5	2	–	172	771	210	66	10	78	539	406	1	434	20
Total - - -	1,009	1,157	59	24	–	1	5	2	–	177	798	219	67	10	80	582	425	1	450	21
Discharged - - -	976	981	41	24	–	–	3	2	–	150	491	207	62	9	77	534	322	1	414	19
Died - - -	20	125	13	–	–	–	1	–	–	25	284	3	3	1	1	4	78	–	18	2
Remaining 31st December 1882	13	51	5	–	–	1	1	–	–	2	23	9	2	–	2	44	25	–	18	–
Total - -	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–

Total number treated in the 24 Government Civil Hospitals, amounted
Total number
Total number of deaths, 1,554 or

De Soyz, a Lying-in Hospital, the Lunatic and the Leper Asylums, the Lock Hospital at Maradana for the Year 1882.

VII. Human Parasites.	VIII Congenital Malformation.	Total.	For Diet.	Servants.	Equipment.	Contingencies not included under the foregoing heads.	Salaries of Medical Officers.	Total.	Amount recovered for maintenance of patients in Hospital.	Balance remaining on hand at the end of the year after dieting sick merchant seamen.
–	–	673	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.
4	1	6,517								
4	1	7,190	71,854 82¾	24,952 73	11,215 58	7,727 65	28,450 0	144,200 78¾	1,720 95	622 84
3	–	5,915								
–	1	653								
1	–	622								
–	–	133								
–	–	2,380								
–	–	2,513	14,873 26	4,118 64	998 12	1,081 89	8,400 0	29,471 91	528 42	—
–	–	2,230								
–	–	175								
–	–	108								
–	–	133								
–	–	2,281								
–	–	2,414	13,731 65	6,377 92	1,793 68	2,007 88	9,800 0	33,711 13	698 20½	—
–	–	2,224								
–	–	103								
–	–	87								
–	–	71								
–	–	1,049								
–	–	1,120	7,676 64	2,213 34	176 84	630 08	3,900 0	14,596 90	19 75	—
–	–	1,010								
–	–	18								
–	–	92								
–	–	43								
–	–	485								
–	–	528	3,007 85	1,751 0	494 18	292 03	8,500 0	14,045 06	76 15	—
–	–	475								
–	–	27								
–	–	26								
–	–	195								
4	–	4,896								
4	–	5,091	28,632 46	10,340 49	2,786 03	3,610 25	12,500 0	57,869 23	1,820 44¾	—
4	–	4,317								
–	–	578								
–	–	196								
Total		-	139,776 68¾	49,754 12	17,464 43	15,349 78	71,550 0	293,895 1¾	4,863 92¼	—

to 18,488, the deaths to 1,553, the death rate being 8·40.
treated, 18,856.
8·24 per cent of casess treated.

CEYLON.

Education.

19. The total number of Government and grant-in-aid schools on the 31st December 1882 was 1,253, with a nominal attendance of 89,439 scholars, showing an increase of 23 Government schools and of 2,971 scholars during the previous 12 months, and an apparent decrease of 7 in the number of grant-in-aid schools and an increase of 1,711 scholars. The decrease, however, in the number of grant-in-aid schools is more apparent than real, as will be seen from the fact that 25 girls' schools have been, in name, united with boys' schools, and the two, though taught in separate buildings by teachers altogether independent of each other, have only one register of attendance and are regarded as one mixed school, receiving one grant. Of the above 1,253 schools, 421 were Government schools with 26,597 scholars, and 832 grant-in-aid schools with an attendance of 62,842 scholars. The total expenditure for the year was Rs. 487,988 90, or Rs. 5,092 43 more than the expenditure for 1881. The proportion of scholars in daily attendance to the total number on the list, which is called above "nominal attendance," was in Government schools and grant-in-aid schools 65·1 and 64 respectively, as against 67·9 and 63·4 in 1881. In the following tables are shown (1) the number of boys and girls under instruction, and the per-centage of daily attendance; (2) the classification of the schools with reference to locality, standard of instruction, and proportion of population under instruction; (3) the nationality and religion of the scholars; (4) the number of scholars examined in the several standards; and (5) the amounts of grant-in-aid earned by the several missions throughout the island:—

(1.)

——	Number of Schools.	Number of Boys.	Number of Girls.	Total Number of Boys and Girls.	Average Attendance.	Per-centage
GOVERNMENT.						
English - -	27	1,699	439	2,138	1,757	82
Anglo-vernacular -	24	2,312	143	2,455	1,600	65
Vernacular - -	370	17,990	4,014	22,004	13,966	63
GRANT-IN-AID.						
English - -	94	7,854	1,076	8,930	6,467	72
Anglo-vernacular -	54	3,444	627	4,071	2,817	69
Vernacular - -	684	34,478	15,363	49,841	30,990	62
Total - -	1,253	67,777	21,662	89,439	57,597	—

(2.)

Class of Schools.	Western Province.		Southern Province.		Northern Province.		Eastern Province.	
	Schools.	Pupils.	Schools.	Pupils.	Schools.	Pupils.	Schools.	Pupils.
English - -	45	4,834	20	1,859	29	2,515	7	605
Anglo-vernacular -	24	1,917	8	748	33	2,693	2	127
Vernacular - -	483	35,154	111	6,899	235	15,964	97	5,771
Total - -	552	41,905	139	9,506	297	21,172	106	6,503
Population - -	897,329		433,520		302,500		127,555	
Proportion under instruction according to census of 1881.	1 in 21		1 in 45		1 in 14		1 in 19	

(*continued.*)

Class of Schools.	Central Province.		North-western Province.		North Central Province.		Total.	
	Schools.	Pupils.	Schools.	Pupils.	Schools.	Pupils.	Schools.	Pupils.
English - -	13	908	7	347	—	—	121	11,068
Anglo-vernacular -	11	1,041	—	—	—	—	78	6,526
Vernacular - -	65	3,703	52	4,057	11	297	1,054	71,845
Total - -	89	5,652	59	4,404	11	297	1,253	89,439
Population - -	639,361		293,327		66,146		2,759,738	
Proportion under instruction according to census of 1881.	1 in 113		1 in 66		1 in 222		1 in 30	

(3.)

Nationality.	1882.	1881.	Increase.	Decrease.
English - - -	116	84	32	—
European descendants -	2,286	2,252	34	—
Sinhalese - - -	56,487	51,806	4,681	—
Malabar - - -	28,916	28,914	2	—
Malays - - -	319	339	—	20
Moors - - -	1,212	1,319	—	107
Others - - -	103	43	60	—
Total - -	89,439	84,757	4,809	127

Religion.	1882.	1881.	Increase.	Decrease.
Buddhist - - -	37,583	33,405	4,178	—
Hindu - - -	22,775	22,429	346	—
Roman Catholic - -	20,594	20,342	252	—
Church of England -	3,331	3,379	—	48
Wesleyan - -	2,177	2,148	29	—
Presbyterian, Baptist, &c. -	1,388	1,343	45	—
Mahommedans - -	1,552	1,688	—	136
Others - - -	39	23	16	—
Total - -	89,439	84,757	4,866	184

(4.)

Standards.	No. of Children examined in Government English Schools.		No. of Children examined in Government Anglo-vernacular Schools.		No. of Children examined in Government Vernacular Schools.		No. of Children examined in Grant-in-aid English Schools.	
	1881.	1882.	1881.	1882.	1881.	1882.	1881.	1882.
Standard I. - - -	201	231	256	336	3,098	3,426	757	871
Standard II. - -	199	294	188	327	2,409	2,889	799	879
Standard III. - -	216	273	205	273	1,550	1,763	1,029	851
Standard IV. - -	196	254	149	175	812	945	910	956
Standard V. - - -	114	142	118	102	350	414	642	735
Standard VI. - -	81	77	75	101	94	152	450	514
Standard VII. - -	36	16	28	28	8	27	26	251
Standard VIII. - -	9	10	4	7	—	—	24	111
Total - -	1,052	1,297	1,023	1,349	8,321	9,616	4,637	5,168

(*continued*).

Standards.	No. of Children examined in Grant-in-aid Anglo-vernacular Schools.		No. of Children examined in Grant-in-aid Vernacular Schools.		Total.	
	1881.	1882.	1881.	1882.	1881.	1882.
Standard I. - - -	568	432	6,778	7,555	11,658	12,851
Standard II. - -	498	453	5,442	5,519	9,535	10,361
Standard III. - -	599	373	5,492	4,056	9,091	7,589
Standard IV. - -	357	376	2,655	3,203	5,079	5,909
Standard V. - - -	224	300	708	1,346	2,156	3,039
Standard VI. - -	116	231	138	347	954	1,422
Standard VII. - -	37	93	—	42	135	457
Standard VIII. - -	8	16	—	6	45	150
Total - -	2,407	2,274	21,213	22,074	38,653	41,778

(5.)

Management.	English.		Anglo-vernacular.		Vernacular.		Total.	
	1882.	1881.	1882.	1881.	1882.	1881.	1882.	1881.
American - - -	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	2
Baptist - - -	—	—	—	—	1	3	1	3
Buddhist - - -	—	—	—	—	2	1	2	1
Church of England (C.M.S.)	—	—	—	—	8	5	8	5
Church of England, Diocesan	3	—	—	—	1	1	4	1
Private - - -	—	—	1	1	2	—	3	1
Roman Catholic - -	—	—	—	—	4	7	4	7
Wesleyan - - -	1	1	—	—	5	12	6	13
Total - -	4	2	1	1	23	30	28	33

Judicial Statistics.

20. The Queen's Advocate reports that the criminal statistics of the year compare favourably with the returns of the nine preceding years, notwithstanding the fact that there is a slight increase in the number of charges instituted over those instituted in 1881, especially when account is taken of the increase of population. In the graver offences, however, there is no falling off from the increased numbers which have marked the last few years. No less than 66 persons were charged with murder during the year, of whom 24 were convicted and 42 acquitted as against 54 commitments and 27 convictions in 1881. 77 persons were committed for manslaughter, of whom 55 were convicted, against 96 commitments and 67 convictions in 1881; and under the heads of rape, abduction and rape, and abduction and abetting a rape, there were 14 commitments and 11 convictions, giving a total of 90 convictions under the graver heads of offences against the person.

21. Prefixed to the Blue Book will be found a table giving a statistical view of the progress of the Colony from the year 1821 to 1882 inclusive, and an abstract of the principal statistical results for the years 1881 and 1882.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon.
The Earl of Derby,
&c. &c.

(Signed) JOHN DOUGLAS.

Hong Kong.

HONG KONG.

No. 2.

Governor Sir G. F. Bowen, G.C.M.G., to the Right Hon. the Earl of Derby.

Government House, Hong Kong,
July 18, 1883.

My Lord,

I have the honour to transmit herewith the "Blue Book," or Statistical Returns, of Hong Kong for the year 1882.

2. As I assumed the government of this Dependency only on the 30th March ultimo, no part of the year 1882 fell within my administration. It would, consequently, be improper on my part to make any detailed remarks upon the accompanying statistics. But it may be useful that I should take this opportunity of forwarding, for publication in the annual parliamentary papers showing the general state of our colonies and dependencies, a short account of the present condition of this important outpost of the British Empire, which has been aptly called the "Gibraltar of "the far East."

3. The island of Hong Kong* was ceded by China to Great Britain by the Treaty of Nankin, in 1842; and the charter erecting it into a dependency of the British Crown bears date April 5, 1843. The late Lord Derby, who was then Secretary of State for the Colonies, wrote to the first Governor (Sir Henry Pottinger) on June 3, 1843, that "Hong Kong is occupied, not "with a view to colonisation, but for diplomatic, commercial, "and military purposes." So at a later period (July 29, 1856), another Colonial Minister† wrote: "The island of Hong Kong "is held by the British Crown, not because of any natural "advantages which it possesses, but simply as subsidiary to the "intercourse between the British and Chinese Empires. In this "point of view it is of great importance. Great commercial "interests, and the future progress of civilisation throughout the "East, are, to a great extent, involved in the maintenance of "British rule and of orderly government in Hong Kong."

4. Hong Kong, like Gibraltar, is not, strictly speaking, a colony. Neither of these dependencies corresponds to either the "Colonia" of the Romans, which term, as Adam Smith has remarked,‡ is simply the "Plantation" of former English statesmen and political writers, or to the *Colony* of the Greeks, which they

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* Hong Kong is a Chinese word, signifying "Fragrant Streams," in reference to the beauty and purity of the streams flowing from its mountains.

† Mr. Labouchere, afterwards Lord Taunton.

‡ *Wealth of Nations*, Book IV., chap. 7.

designated by a word (ἀποικία) "which signifies a separation of "dwelling, a departure from home, a going out of the house."* In fact, Hong Kong, like Gibraltar, corresponds to the fortified outpost of the Greeks, which they denoted by a term (ἐπιτείχισμα) signifying "a fort or stronghold placed so as to command an "enemy's country."†, and is now, as Burke said of Gibraltar, "a post of power, a post of superiority, of connexion, of com- "merce; a post which makes us invaluable to our friends, and "formidable to our enemies." HONG KONG.

5. But Hong Kong corresponds also, even more than Gibraltar, to the emporium (ἐμπόριον) or "mart of commerce" of the Greeks. That this new dependency has already exceeded the most sanguine expectations of the statesmen who advocated and carried out the annexation of Hong Kong to the British Empire, is amply proved by a single fact recorded in the official statistics which accompany this Despatch. It will be seen that the tonnage of the shipping entered at the port of Hong Kong in the year 1882 amounted to nearly 5,000,000 tons, to exactly 4,976,233 tons.‡ This is larger than the tonnage of the shipping entered at the port of London in the year 1837, the year of the accession of the reigning sovereign; that is, six years before the annexation of Hong Kong to the British Crown, and at a period when this Island was a desolate rock, uninhabited save by a few Chinese pirates and fishermen.

6. It will be recollected that Burke, in one of his most famous speeches,§ pointed out that in 68 years, during the life of Lord Chancellor Bathurst, the trade of the American colonies so grew that it was equal in 1775 to what the trade of Great Britain had been in 1707. He said: "Whatever England has been growing "to by a progressive increase of improvement, brought in by "varieties of people, by succession of civilising conquests and "civilising settlements in a series of 1,700 years, you shall see so "much added to her by America in the course of a single life!" So it may be said that during 40 years of the reign of our present gracious Sovereign, that is, between 1843 and 1883, the city of Victoria in Hong Kong, which was not in existence at the time of the Queen's accession, has added to the British Empire a shipping trade greater than that which London, a mart of commerce even under the Romans, possessed after a prosperous career of 18 centuries.

7. Again, the public revenue of Hong Kong amounted in 1882 to $1,209,517, equivalent at the present rate of exchange to about two hundred and twenty thousand pounds (220,000*l.*) in English money; that is, the public revenue of this Island already far exceeds the entire public revenue of the ancient kingdom of

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* Adam Smith, *Ibid.*

† Liddell and Scott's Greek Lexicon.

‡ Or, inclusive of local trade, 5,151,721 tons.

§ On *Conciliation with America.* Delivered in the House of Commons, March 22, 1775.

Hong Kong.

Scotland (that is, 156,000*l.*) at the time of the union with England in the reign of Queen Anne. This revenue defrays the whole cost of the civil government, including the police, the public works, the management of the port and shipping, the light-houses, &c., and also furnishes an annual military contribution of twenty thousand pounds (20,000*l.*) to the Imperial Government.

8. It is, moreover, to be noted that Hong Kong is one of the very few communities in the world which is absolutely without a public debt. On the contrary, Hong Kong possesses a balance fund, invested at interest, and amounting on the 31st December ultimo to $1,148,664, or 209,000*l.*; that is, nearly equal to one year's revenue. The surplus balance on the revenue of 1882 amounted to $114,712, or above 20,000*l.*

9. As Hong Kong is a free port it is impossible to obtain accurate statistics of the imports and exports, but the great value of the trade with which it is connected may be estimated from the amount of shipping which (as was stated above) annually enters and leaves the harbour. In fact, Hong Kong is the centre of Eastern commerce in many kinds of European, Asiatic, and American goods, and the transactions of the trade in silk and tea are mainly controlled by the mercantile firms of which the head-quarters are fixed in this great emporium.

10. Hong Kong is already well provided with the establishments required by its vast commerce. There are five docks, provided with all the appliances necessary for the repairs of ships of war and merchant vessels.

11. There is communication by steamer and telegraph with nearly all parts of the world. Telegrams of all important events occurring in Europe, Asia, and America, appear within a few hours in the daily newspapers of Hong Kong.

12. The population of the island, which is chiefly centred in the city of Victoria, amounted, according to the census taken in April 1881, to 160,402, of which number 7,990 were *whites*,* 1,722 *coloured*, and the remainder *Chinese*.

13. Full provision has been made for the public instruction of all races and classes of the population by means of schools, supported in part directly by the Government, and in part on the "grant-in-aid" system. There is a bishop of the Anglican, and also of the Roman Catholic Church; and clergymen of the principal Christian communions.

14. The average range of the thermometer is from 43° to 89° in the city of Victoria; but it is much cooler on the range of hills above, where many of the principal inhabitants possess summer residences. On the whole it may be said that Victoria in Hong Kong has the summer of Alexandria, and the winter of Naples.

15. The Island is separated from the mainland of China by an arm of the sea, varying from four miles to half a mile in width. The opposite peninsula of Kowloong was ceded by China to

* The *resident* whites were only about 3,000, the remainder consisting of the naval and military forces, and the crews of merchant ships in the harbour.

Great Britain and annexed to Hong Kong in 1861. The Island is 11 miles long, and from two to four miles wide, and consists chiefly of a mountainous ridge, with peaks rising abruptly to nearly 2,000 feet above the sea. The harbour is at once one of the finest and one of the most beautiful in the world, possessing a sheltered area of 10 square miles, while many features of the surrounding scenery recall the Gulf of Spezzia. The city of Victoria extends for more than four miles along the south shore of the harbour, and contains about 7,000 houses of stone and brick, many of them spacious and handsome. The chief streets are shaded with trees. There is a well-arranged botanic garden.

16. Finally, the form of government at Hong Kong resembles that of the principal Crown Colonies. The Governor is assisted by an Executive Council, and he also presides over a Legislative Council, composed partly of official and partly of unofficial members, all nominated by the Crown.

17. I shall devote all my efforts, aided by the experience which I have gained during my long service of 24 years as a Colonial Governor, to the promotion of the welfare and progress of the important and interesting dependency of the British Crown, of the present condition of which I have given the above general sketch, to be filled up in detail in future reports.

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. F. BOWEN.

The Right Hon.
The Earl of Derby,
&c. &c.

LABUAN.

No. 3.

Administrator P. LEYS to the Right Hon. the EARL OF DERBY.

Government House, Labuan,
June 13, 1883.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to submit the Blue Book Returns for the year 1882.

Finance.

1. *Revenue.*—The total revenue received during the year amounted to $23,363 40 as against the sum of $22,948 47 received during the previous year, thus showing a small increase of $414 93. This small increase is due, not to any increase in the ordinary revenue but to the sum of $454 85 having been received during 1882 as profit on the sale of the Straits Settlements copper coinage.

LABUAN.

2. *Expenditure.*—The total expenditure during the past year amounted to $21,643 72 as against $32,245 24 expended in 1881, thus showing a reduction of $10,601 52, or nearly one third. The bulk of this reduction was effected under the head of salaries, namely, $7,061 69, but a saving was also effected to a greater or less extent under all the other heads of expenditure, with the exception of pensions, which was increased by $300 85, and education, which remained the same as in previous years.

The following table shows the expenditure of 1882 under each head as compared with that of 1881 :—

	1881.		1882.	
	$	cts.	$	cts.
Salaries fixed	21,009	35	13,947	66
Salaries provisional and temporary	240	00	180	00
Pensions	2,589	39	2,890	24
Administration of justice	93	95	69	59
Education	100	00	100	00
Hospitals	432	24	326	72
Police	326	64	210	95
Gaols	1,152	74	778	16
Transport	505	04	55	00
Works and buildings	2,801	05	1,704	15
Roads, streets, and bridges	199	70	194	37
Marine department	164	38	73	07
Miscellaneous services	378	36	347	72
Special payments	2,252	40	766	09
Total	32,245	24	21,643	72

A considerable reduction took place during 1882, both in the police force and in the number of convicts confined in goal, the periods of service for which a number of the police joined having expired during the year, and the decrease in the number of convicts by the expiration of sentences not being met by the importation of convicts from the Straits Settlements asformerly.

3. *Assets and liabilities.*—The assets of the Colony on the 31st December 1882 (consisting chiefly of cash in the treasurer's and agents' hands, $10,444 31, and of arrears of revenue $1,615 99) amounted to $13,768 47, and the liabilities (consisting principally of deposits, $4,055 62) to $5,239 89, thus leaving a balance to the credit of the Colony of $8,528 58.

Works and Buildings.

4. The only new work engaged in during the year was a barrack in Victoria for the police. It was begun in February 1881, but comparatively little was done to it during that year beyond purchasing materials and building the brick foundation. This barrack is a substantial building made of dressed timber supported by brick pillars. It measures 128 feet by 30 feet, and accommodates the Sikh division of the police, about 20 in number. The sum of $871 55 was expended on this barrack during the year, and the total cost of its erection, exclusive of convict labour, was $2,094 31.

Legislation.

5. Four Ordinances were passed by the Legislative Council during 1882, namely :—

I.—An Ordinance to make final provision for the public service of the year 1881.

II.—An Ordinance to provide for the safe storage of explosive substances and of combustible substances within the Settlement of Labuan.

III.—An Ordinance to make provision for the public service of the Colony of Labuan during the year 1883.

IV.—An Ordinance to provide for the better lighting, cleaning, repair, and general sanitation of the town of Victoria.

Establishments.

6. Mr. Jansz, who was appointed Colonial Surgeon on the 17th of December 1881, arrived in the Island on the 13th January following, and left for an appointment under the Government of the Straits Settlements on the 30th March 1882. Mr. A. Leys arrived in the Colony on the 9th July and immediately entered on the duties of his post of private Secretary to the Administrator.

Pensions.

7. Mr. W. J. Roach, formerly surveyor and superintendent of convicts (1875 to 1878), was granted a pension from the 22nd September 1881, the annual share of which, payable by Labuan, was calculated in 1882 to be 58*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* Tyre, the first boatman, on retiring from old age on 1st January, was awarded a pension at the rate of 11*l.* 5*s.* 0*d.* per annum.

Imports and Exports.

8. The returns for the past year show a decided falling off in the import and export trade of the Island, the value of the imports having been in 1882 $611,105 as against $874,142 in 1881, and that of the exports $640,246 as against $935,541. Indeed, a detailed comparison of the returns for 1882 with those for the preceding year will show a decrease in the quantities of nearly every article imported and exported. This decrease has been due to three causes. The first, and doubtless the greatest of the three, was an epidemic of cholera which visited Labuan and the north-west coast of Borneo during 1882. It put a stop, in a great measure for three or four months, not only to the collection of sea and jungle produce and of sago, but also to intercourse between many of the rivers on the coast, and to intercourse between them and Labuan. The second cause of decrease was, that of the two small coasting steamers plying between Labuan on the one hand, and Sulu and the coast on the other, one was withdrawn from the trade, and the other was,

LABUAN.

under contract with the British North Borneo Company, induced to tranship her cargo at one of the stations on the coast instead of at Labuan. The third cause was the greatly increased direct steam communication between Sulu and North Borneo and Singapore, thus diverting the trade of Sulu and North Borneo past Labuan, and inducing traders to settle in Sulu and the ports in North Borneo which have lately been opened, and ship their goods direct to Singapore.

The first cause has happily long since passed away, and the only coasting steamer has found it most convenient to tranship at Labuan what little cargo the through steamers leave her, but that Labuan should retain her Sulu and North Borneo trade could not under the circumstances be expected.

During the year, however, a certain amount of trade in jungle produce sprung up between Labuan and the Island of Palawan, the dammar (a valuable resin) and canes found in Palawan being of excellent quality and in great abundance.

Shipping.

9. The relative numbers and tonnages of steam and sailing vessels entered and cleared during the last six years, and the number of native boats cleared during each of these years, with the number of their crews, have been as follows:—

Year.	Entered.				Native Vessels.		Cleared.			
	Sailing Vessels.		Steam Vessels.		Cleared.		Sailing Vessels.		Steam Vessels.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Crews.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1877 -	7	1,346	26	7,885	1,196	7,204	8	1,719	24	7,511
1878 -	3	1,737	31	8,943	1,045	6,054	2	982	32	9,506
1879 -	6	2,271	32	8,516	938	5,423	7	2,726	33	8,629
1880 -	4	1,234	46	10,108	688	3,799	3	962	45	9,995
1881 -	3	987	51	10,066	658	3,952	4	1,259	53	10,126
1882 -	2	1,094	80	23,322	567	3,425	2	1,094	80	23,284

The great increase in the number of steam vessels entered and cleared of late years, and especially during 1882 has been due to the operations of the British North Borneo Company. As pointed out in my report on the Returns for 1881, it is very evident that steam vessels are rapidly supplanting sailing vessels and the native coasting craft.

Mines.

10. In the month of June Mr. Cowie ceased to mine the coal in the Batu Avang district which he had worked on an annual lease since February 1880.

Public Health.

11. Towards the end of the second week in June an epidemic of cholera visited the Island, and continued till the second week of August. The disease was beyond a doubt brought to the island from Sulu by a coasting steamer. It appeared first in the port of Victoria, but happily did not spread beyond the small bay forming the harbour, and the fishing villages in the bay immediately to the westward. Of the 139 persons attacked 131 were Malays, 5 Chinese, and 3 natives of India. Of those attacked, 88 were males and 51 females. The mortality was 72·66 per cent.

With the exception of the occurrence of this epidemic the general health of the people was good.

Subjoined is a table of the monthy rainfall for the last four years, and for comparison the monthly rainfall, extending over a period of four years, 20 years previously :—

RAINFALL.

Year.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Total for the Years.
	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.
1855 - - -	4·97	5·20	3·17	7·04	3·99	14·80	13·04	2·43	6·47	7·22	8·89	17·97	95·19
1856 - - -	4·68	3·54	10·95	8·89	9·60	4·30	15·01	20·42	7·70	14·21	17·70	19·25	136·25
1857 - - -	13·78	14·10	9·49	8·53	13·32	5·73	13·65	5·59	6·66	25·63	6·12	14·31	136·91
1858 - - -	4·48	10·58	13·22	11·14	16·14	6·88	10·85	8·26	10·60	15·11	7·89	17·18	132·33
Average for four years -	6·98	8·35	9·21	8·90	10·76	7·93	13·14	9·17	7·86	15·54	10·15	17·18	125·17
1879 - - -	16·94	4·52	10·35	9·77	6·94	15·04	23·00	27·96	7·17	13·78	10·03	5·65	151·15
1880 - - -	20·24	9·91	1·97	9·19	15·33	17·74	7·16	9·75	14·13	13·50	10·29	14·70	143·91
1881 - - -	7·84	3·01	0·14	2·98	14·11	31·07	6·59	14·88	14·30	21·57	18·18	12·93	147·60
1882 - - -	10·41	3·34	18·87	4·19	9·27	10·41	4·64	20·02	7·78	19·74	20·86	12·58	142·11
Average for four years -	13·86	5·19	7·83	6·53	11·41	18·56	10·35	18·15	10·84	17·15	14·84	11·46	146·19

The comparison of these two tables shows that, so far as their limited periods of observation extend, the rainfall 20 years ago was considerably less than it has been of late. This is not in accordance with the generally received opinion that more rain falls on land covered by forest than on grass lands, as 20 years ago the Island was covered with magnificent trees, while of late years only a few patches of old jungle remained, the great proportion of the Island having come under grass.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. (Signed) P. LEYS,
The Earl of Derby, Administrator.
&c. &c.

BARBADOS.

No. 4.

Governor SIR W. ROBINSON, K.C.M.G., to the Right Hon. the EARL OF DERBY.

MY LORD, Barbados, July 18, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to forward a report on the Blue Book for 1882 by the Colonial Secretary, Mr. Knollys.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. (Signed) WILLIAM ROBINSON.
The Earl of Derby,
&c. &c.

Revenue and Expenditure, 1882.

	£	*s.*	*d.*
1. The balance on 1st January 1882 was	16,267	2	8½
The revenue for 1882 was - -	141,713	13	5½
Making a total of - -	157,980	16	2
The expenditure for 1882 was - -	145,311	12	9
Leaving a balance on 31st December 1882 of - - - -	12,669	3	5

2. The revenue of 1882 was the largest ever collected in the Colony, and the expenditure exhibits the largest amount ever disbursed.

3. The expenditure shows an excess over revenue of 3,597*l.* 19*s.* 3½*d.* Of the sum of 10,000*l.* which was appropriated under the Public Works Loan Act, 1881, 4,714*l.* 3*s.* 6½*d.* was spent. 7,294*l.* 0*s.* 6½*d.* was spent for the redemption of police pensions, on Glendairy extension, Dodd's Reformatory, and vaccination; thus leaving the ordinary expenditure at 138,017*l.* 12*s.* 2½*d.*

and resulting in an excess of revenue over ordinary expenditure of 3,696*l.* 1*s.* 3*l.*

4. The revenue and expenditure may be tabulated thus:—

1882.	Customs.	Other Receipts.	Total.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Revenue - -	89,680 19 1	52,032 14 4½	141,713 13 5½

1882.	Salaries.	Other Expenditure.	Total.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Expenditure - -	63,250 5 4	82,061 7 5	145,311 12 9

5. The assets of the Colony on 31st December 1882 amounted to 24,818*l.* 1*s.* 9*d.*, and were as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Balance on 31st December - - -	12,669	3	5
Loans - - - -	10,550	0	0
On purchase of land - - -	1,598	18	4
	24,818	1	9

Local Revenues.

6. The revenue raised for parochial and highway purposes during the year ended 31st March 1882 was as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Parochial purposes - -	45,201	2	0
Highway purposes - -	7,692	3	0
Legislative grant for highways -	5,450	0	0
Total - - - - -	58,343	5	0

7. The expenditure was as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Parochial - - -	37,838	3	0
Highway - - -	13,142	3	0
Total - - - -	50,980	3	0

Showing a balance of 7,363*l.* 2*s.* 0*d.*, which is chiefly composed of arrears of taxes.

8. The sum expended on poor relief during the same period was 18,854*l.*, the bulk of the remainder being for church purposes and salaries.

9. The expenditure on roads averaged 27*l.* per mile; the highest rate being 75*l.* in Bridgetown, and the lowest 17*l.* in St. Lucy's parish.

Public Debt.

10. The Colony has no public debt.

Military Expenditure.

11. The expenditure by the Imperial Government for military purposes was 52,141*l.* 10*s.* 10*d.*

Public Works.

12. The total amount spent on public works was 7,902*l.* 18*s.* 9*d.* The only important works undertaken, were a new wing to the gaol, a reformatory for juveniles, and an inland telegraph system.

Legislation.

13. Twenty-seven Acts were passed during the year 1882 as follows :—

No. 1.—To exempt officers of Her Majesty's Army and Navy from the payment of parochial and highway taxes. (Disallowed.)

No. 2.—To vest the residence of the bishop of the Anglican Church in the Executive Committee.

No. 3.—Supplemental Appropriation Act, 1881.

No. 4.—Appropriation Act, 1882.

No. 5.—To declare what proofs and authentications to deeds, wills, and other writings proved and authenticated in the United Kingdom shall be sufficient evidence in the courts of this Island of their due execution and authentication.

No. 6.—To allay the apprehensions of holders of securities over sugar plantations in this Island, to restore confidence in such securities, and to prevent vexatious and expensive suits in relation thereto.

No. 7.—To provide for the repair and maintenance of the ghways of the city of Bridgetown and parish of St. Michael.

No. 8.—To enable the Highway Commissioners of the parish of St. John to pension their Inspector of Roads.

No. 9.—To enable the vestry of the parish of St. George to sell certain land, and to erect an almshouse with the proceeds.

No. 10.—To enable the vestry of the parish of St. Joseph to raise a loan to enable them to complete the repair of the parish church.

No. 11.—To amend and consolidate the law relating to weighers and gaugers.

No. 12.—To enable the Governing Body of Harrison College to raise a loan, and guaranteeing the loan and interest thereon.

No. 13.—To grant a pension to the Clerk of the Police Magistrate at District "E".

No. 14.—To enable the Highway Commissioners of the parishes of St. James and St. Peter to take under their control a certain road.

No. 15.—To amend and consolidate the law relating to petroleum.

BARBADOS.

No. 16.—To amend the law relating to the admission of attorneys, solicitors, and proctors to practise in the courts of this Island.

No. 17.—To grant out of the Public Treasury a contribution to the salary of the Governor-in-Chief of the Windward Islands.

No. 18.—To regulate the fees payable to the Colonial Secretary and to pay him from the Public Treasury a fixed annual sum in lieu of such fees.

No. 19.—To extend the time for the holdings of the courts of grand sessions.

No. 20.—To grant an exclusive right to manufacture sulphuric acid in this Island.

No. 21.—To consolidate and amend the laws relating to the police.

No. 22.—To amend the law relating to the Barbados Railway Company.

No. 23.—To extend the summary jurisdiction of the several police magistrates.

No. 24.—To amend the Merchant Shipping Protection Act.

No. 25.—To authorise the vestry of St. Michael to appoint and remunerate a vestry clerk.

No. 26.—To facilitate the recovery of possession of tenements.

No. 27.—To continue various expiring laws.

14. The intention of most of these Acts is evident from their titles, but No. 6, 16, and 20 deserve more than a passing mention.

15. The preamble to No. 6 states that certain merchants have recently put forward claims to the effect that the moneys due to them from the proprietors of estates, whether secured against the estates or on open account, should be ranked by the Master of the Court of Chancery as the first liens against the estate, the argument being that the estate might have to be abandoned for want of means to cultivate it.

The arguments on the other side were that no estate had ever been abandoned for this reason, as when a proprietor is unable to continue the cultivation of his plantation it is placed under the care and control of the Court of Chancery, and a receiver appointed, who finds no difficulty in obtaining money for carrying on the cultivation, until the estate is appraised and sold under a decree of the Court. That, moreover, the law and established usage in regard to real estate, and securities over real estate, is the same as the law of England, and that mortgages on estates afford investments for capital which have always been considered sound, and have been much sought after. That, the consignee claims, if established, would injure, and in many instances destroy, present investments in real estate, causing distress and ruin, and would seriously depreciate the value of estates, as capital already invested would be withdrawn, and the introduction of fresh capital deterred. The Act then sets forth that all secured claims upon an estate shall rank according to the date on which such security shall have been obtained, provided the deed be recorded within three months if executed in the

Island, or twelve months if executed elsewhere. All open accounts to rank alike. One year, from the date the Act comes into force, is granted for any person to endeavour to establish his claim, but the Act is not to be construed as implying any doubt as to the invalidity of such claim.

16. No. 16 provides for the registration of persons entitled to practise as attorneys, solicitors, or proctors in the courts of the Island. It was found that there was no guarantee that a person claiming to be a solicitor had any qualification for the office, as he only had to spend a certain number of years in the office of another solicitor, who might himself be no better qualified. The Act provides that before being admitted a person must serve as articled clerk for five years, and pass three examinations.

17. No. 20 grants a monopoly for 10 years of the manufacture of sulphuric acid. This Bill received considerable opposition on the part of the Government, and was only assented to out of consideration to the wishes of the House of Assembly.

Political Franchise.

18. The number of registered electors at the annual elections was 1,622, out of a population of about 173,000. At the nominations for the 24 seats to be filled a poll was demanded in only two instances. A Bill for the extension of the franchise is now before the Legislature.

Councils and Assemblies.

19. *Executive Council.*—The Honourable Walter Hely Hutchinson, Colonial Secretary, was absent from the 30th July, his place being taken by Mr. C. C. Knollys, Auditor General, the latter's seat not being filled. Sir John Sealy, K.C.M.G., and Mr. N. Foderingham were appointed to the Council in September, which then became five in number.

20. *Legislative Council.*—Mr. Augustus Briggs, President, died on the 17th May, and was succeeded by Mr. George C. Pile. Dr. John Sealy, M.D., resigned. Messrs. Henry Pilgrim, Sperker, and James W. Parris were raised from the Lower House, and Messrs. B. C. Howell and W. P. Leacock were appointed. The Council was increased to its full number, nine.

21. *House of Assembly.*—Writs for the new House were returned on the 30th May, when the following changes were found to have taken place: Messrs. John J. Spencer and M. J. Bovell were returned in the place of Messrs. Henry Pilgrim and James W. Parris, raised to the Council; Mr. W. H. Greaves, in the place of Mr. J. W. Carrington, left the Island; Mr. W. N. Phillips, in the place of Mr. E. P. Trotman, resigned; and Mr. G H. Alleyne, jun., in the place of Mr. J. C. Richards, deceased. In two cases a poll was demanded.

BARBADOS.

Civil Establishment.

22. The Government of the Windward Islands was administered throughout the year by William Robinson, Esq., C.M.G.

The Hon. Walter Hely Hutchinson was absent on leave from the 30th July; Mr. C. C. Knollys, Auditor General, acted or him.

Mr. C. C. Knollys, Auditor General, was absent on leave to the 30th July; Mr. Louis J. Patterson acted as Auditor General throughout the year.

Mr. B. Lawrance, Postmaster, died in September, and was succeeded by Mr. P. Trimingham, official assignee; Mr. R. J. Clinckett succeeded Mr. Trimingham.

Mr. T. W. McKinstry was appointed actuary of the Savings Bank, vice Mr. J. G. Grant resigned.

Mr. W. C. Reeves was appointed Attorney General in the place of Mr. F. Fleming, promoted.

Mr. H. A. Bovell was appointed Solicitor General in the place of Mr. J. W. Carrington, promoted.

Mr. F. B. Smith was appointed provost marshal; Mr. Smith's place as Senior Police Magistrate was filled by Mr. H. S. Seon; and Mr. Seon's, as Junior Police Magistrate, by Mr. J. P. Massiah.

Mr. W. K. Chandler was appointed Master in Chancery, vice Mr. J. G. Grant, retired.

The land and harbour police were formed into one force, and Mr. H. H. Haynes, Superintendent of the Harbour Police, was appointed Inspector of Police under the Inspector General.

The Right Reverend H. Bree, D.D., assumed charge of the Anglican Church as bishop on the 29th August.

Mr. C. C. Knollys, Auditor General, was appointed to be president of the Education Board, and Mr. J. S. Howell, treasurer, to be president of the Board of Health.

Many minor changes took place in the Civil Service of the Colony during the year.

Pensions.

23. The pension list was increased by the addition of the names of Mr. Edwards with a pension of 25*l.*, and the Honourable J. G. Grant with a pension of 711*l.* 13*s.* 9*d.*

Population.

24. The ceusus taken in 1881 showed a total, exclusive of shipping, of 171,452 persons.

The baptisms during 1882 were -	6,099
The burials - - - -	4,135
Giving an increase to the population of	1,964

The returns of baptisms and burials include Wesleyans and Moravians, besides the members of the Church of England; and, as there are very few persons of any other denomination in the Island, the above figures may be taken as representing the totals under those heads.

The present number of the population may therefore be estimated at 173,000, making some allowance for emigration to the neighbouring islands, of which no correct return can be obtained. The average population to the square mile is thus about 1,042.

Savings Banks.

25. There were 4,672 depositors in the savings banks, with a total deposit of 43,188*l.* 2*s.* 4*d.*

The branch banks recently established were not found to work well, depositors preferring to place their money in the Central bank.

Education.

26. The provisions of the very liberal Education Act passed at the close of the year 1878 have now been nearly all carried out, though their full advantages are not yet seen.

27. *Elementary Schools.*—There were, on the 31st December, 81 infant and 106 primary schools, or, in all, 187 elementary schools, being an increase of 15 over the previous year. The average attendance was 11,150, out of a register of 17,626 children, as compared with 10,249, out of a register of 16,040 during the year 1881.

The 106 primary schools were of the following religious denominations: Anglican, 78; Wesleyan, 16; Moravian, 12.

28. *Second-Grade Schools.*—Five second-grade schools were at work having 148 pupils, the largest having 79 and the smallest 13 pupils.

29. *First Grade.*—The number of pupils at Harrison College was 139, which has, since the close of the year, been increased to 163, the largest number since the opening of the school. A boarding establishment was opened under the supervision of the head master with complete success. The teaching staff consists of eight university men and a professor of languages.

The Lodge School was re-opened under new management with 16 pupils, which has since increased largely. Its teaching staff at present consists of two university men.

The Queen's College for girls was not opened during the year 1882, but in the January following. There were 33 pupils the first term, increased to nearly 60 the second.

30. *Training Schools.*—A training school for masters was opened at the Mission House (part of Codrington College) under the supervision of a clergyman appointed by the Society for the

BARBADOS.

Propagation of the Gospel. The training school for mistresses continued as before.

31. Codrington College, which was founded in 1745, and is affiliated with Durham University, is supported by a legacy of General Codrington, administered by the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel. It is mostly used as a theological training college.

Imports and Exports.

32. Trade may be reported as being in a flourishing condition. The inter-colonial trade, which in 1881 had been interfered with by the quarantine restrictions, revived in the matter of imports, while exports to the neighbouring islands still continued low. The large number of steamers which now touch at some of the islands, tend, in a great measure, to diminish the entrepôt trade by conveying direct to the islands certain goods which formerly were exported from this Colony.

33. The values of imports and exports are as follows :—

Year.	Imports.	Exports.
	£	£
1852 - - - -	767,974	951,727
1862 - - - -	913,142	1,067,612
1872 - - - -	1,125,030	1,021,444
1882 - - - -	1,162,866	1,193,295

34. A contrast of the values for the years 1880, 1881, and 1882 shows an increase in 1882 under the head of exports, which may be attributed to the sugar crop of that year being a larger one than either of the others.

Year.	Imports.	Exports.
	£	£
1880 - - - -	1,170,736	1,166,389
1881 - - - -	1,119,213	1,140,361
1882 - - - -	1,162,866	1,193,295

35. Comparing the revenues derived from customs sources for the last three years, during which there has been no change in the tariff, it would seem that trade has increased :—

	£
1880. Customs receipts - -	86,992
1881. „ „ - -	86,018
1882. „ „ - -	89,680

36. The direction of trade was as follows:—

Countries.	Imports from	Exports to
	£	£
United Kingdom - -	439,686	509,295
United States - - -	446,228	223,738
British North America - -	90,898	263,093
West Indies and British Guiana -	101,921	188,904
Other countries - - -	84,133	8,265
Total - -	1,162,866	1,193,295

37. The imports from Great Britain are chiefly linen and cotton goods, hardware, coal, liquors of all kinds, machinery, and rice. From the United States and North America: breadstuffs, horses and mules, butter, kerosine oil, corn, tobacco, lumber, and salt fish; rice is also imported largely from Calcutta.

38. The export trade may be divided as follows:—

	£
Staple (sugar, molasses, and rum) -	969,560
Other produce of the Colony -	34,180
Re-exports - - -	189,555
	1,193,295

39. The produce or manufacture of the Colony exported, other than the staple, consists of sweet potatoes, lime, petroleum, matches, whale oil, and a few articles in small quantities, such as aloes, arrowroot, tamarinds, &c.

Shipping.

40. The following table shows the number and tonnage of vessels that entered during the year:—

Countries from whence.	Number.	Tonnage.
Great Britain - - - -	130	93,995
United States - - - -	158	52,659
British North America - - -	131	21,104
West Indies and British Guiana - -	716	69,573
Other countries - - - -	91	26,709
Total - - - -	1,226	264,040

41. The total tonnage is greater than any of the three previous years. Steam communication has increased since last year. At the present time (1883) there are nine arrivals monthly from the United Kingdom, three from the United States of America, besides the entries of some which return to this port after calling at Trinidad and British Guiana. The total tonnage of steam vessels entered from the United Kingdom in 1882 was 72,573.

Agriculture, Manufactures, &c.

42. The number of sugar estates in cultivation was 508, averaging 200 acres. The total produce was 54,952 hogsheads of sugar, and 370,581 gallons of rum. Great attention is paid to the best methods of cultivating the cane and manufacturing sugar, and the output is probably as good of its sort as any made.

The oil wells and the whaling station each produced a small quantity of oil, but there is no great enterprise in this direction.

Criminal Statistics.

43. *Police Reports.*—The number of offences reported to the police during the year 1882 was 5,345, an increase of 1,024 over the number reported the previous year.

44. *Apprehensions and Summonses.*—The number of persons brought before the magistrates' courts was 12,332 as compared with 9,273 in the previous year. The average for five years, including 1881, was 10,564.

45. The cases disposed of were as follows:—

Convicted - - - -	9,309
Discharged - - - -	931
Acquitted - - - -	2,252
Committed for trial - - -	193
	12,685

46. *Summary Convictions.*—The summary convictions were divided as follows:—

	1882.	Average five years, 1877 to 1881.
Offences against the person - - -	2,492	2,428
Prædial larceny - - - -	1,248	805
Other offences against property - -	753	499
Other offences - - - -	4,816	3,854
Total - - - -	9,309	7,586

47. This table shows that offences against the person were but slightly above the average for the previous five years, while convictions for all other offences were much more numerous, those for prædial larceny being increased by over 50 per cent.

48. The following penalties were imposed on summary conviction:—

Fines - - - -	5,792
Imprisonment in lieu of fine -	1,327
Peremptory imprisonment -	1,665
Bound over to keep the peace -	525
Total - -	9,309

49. *Superior Courts.*—The number of cases tried in the superior courts was 250, with the following results:—

Judgment for the Crown - -	168
„ „ prisoner - -	41
Fell through for want of prosecution -	41
	250

50. The convictions were divided as follows:—

	1882.	Average years 1877 to 1881.
Offences against the person - - -	56	48
Prædial larceny - - - -	—	7
Other offences against property - -	99	64
Other offences - - - -	13	17
Total - - - -	168	136

51. Among the convictions for serious offences were: attempt to murder 1, concealment of birth 1, rape 1. This Colony has a remarkable freedom from serious crimes of violence.

Gaols.

52. There were 3,294 persons committed to gaol in 1882 as follows:—

	1882.	1881.
For debt - - - - -	70	58
For safe custody - - - -	386	239
For punishment - - - -	2,838	2,307
Total - - - -	3,294	2,604

53. Divided as follows:—

	1882.	1881.
Men - - - - - -	1,609	1,288
Women - - - - -	1,419	1,095
Juveniles - - - - -	266	221
Total - - - -	3,294	2,604

54. The daily average was as follows:—

	In prison.	On the sick list.
Men - - - - - -	324	5·2
Women - - - - -	116	2·2
Juveniles - - - - -	29	—
Total - - - -	469	7·4

There were six deaths during the year.

55. The male prisoners are employed within the prison at a cooperage, mat making, and at a bakery. Outside they are employed in the quarries, on the roads, and on the various public buildings.

56. The net value of their labour was estimated as follows:—

	£
At the cooperage, &c. - -	292
Works, buildings, &c. - -	2,459
Bakery - - - -	869
Total - -	3,620

At concrete work the prisoners are estimated as worth 8*d.* per diem. The bakery supplies the convicts at Glendairy and District "A" Prisons, the Lunatic and Leper Asylums, the Contagious Diseases Hospital, and the Police messes.

Health.

57. The health of the Island was on the whole good, and returned in this respect to its normal aspect. With the exception

of a mild reign of whooping cough no epidemics prevailed. A good many cases of typhoid fever occurred both in town and in the country districts, but the disease was not severe in type, and comparatively few deaths were noted. Three or four sporadic cases of yellow fever were recorded in the early part of the year, but this was to be expected after the epidemic of 1881. The death-rate was normal, and the births exceeded the burials by 1,964.

(Signed) C. C. KNOLLYS,
Colonial Secretary's Office, Colonial Secretary.
14th July 1883.

ST. VINCENT.

No. 5.

Governor SIR W. ROBINSON, K.C.M.G., to the Right Hon. the EARL OF DERBY.

Barbados, August 3, 1883.
Forwarded.
I have, &c.
(Signed) WILLIAM ROBINSON,
Governor.

The Right Hon.
The Earl of Derby,
&c. &c.

Government House, St. Vincent,
July 21, 1883.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward my report on the Blue Book of St. Vincent for 1882 for transmission to the Right Hon. the Secretary of State for the Colonies, and regret that owing to the voluminous returns which were required for the information of the Royal Commissioners the Blue Book could not be completed during the first quarter of this year.

Revenue and Expenditure.

2. Although during the earlier part of 1882 there was a considerable falling off in the estimated revenue from "Excise" and "Customs," the revenue for 1882 exceeded the expenditure by a little over 800*l.*, whilst a balance of 4,177*l.* has been carried forward to the account of this year (1883).

Public Debt.

3. There has been an increase of 2,000*l.* to the public debt under the provisions of "The Government House Loan Ordinance, 1882," whilst on the other hand 500*l.* has been repaid to the credit of the loan from the savings bank, now reduced to 1,500*l.*

ST. VINCENT.

Legislation.

4. Eleven Ordinances were assented to in 1882.

No. 1.—" The Chancery Acts Consolidation Ordinance," which consolidated the existing Acts relating to the jurisdiction formerly exercised by the Court of Chancery, but now transferred to the Supreme Court of Judicature.

No. 2.—To amend "The Liquor License Ordinance, 1878." An omission had occurred in the Ordinance of 1878 in not exempting distinctly from its operation distillers selling rum on the plantation on which it was manufactured, or consignees selling spirits direct from on board ship or from a bonding warehouse.

No. 3.—" To repeal certain Acts, and to provide an authentic " record of the Laws of St. Vincent." This Ordinance repeals 16 Acts which had fallen into abeyance or become obsolete, and was passed with the object of their omission from the new edition of the laws of St. Vincent, which it was intended to publish early in 1883.

No. 4.—" The St. Vincent Government House Loan Ordinance." This enables the Government to raise 4,000*l.* for the purpose of building a new Government House, to be secured by debentures for sums not less than 40*l.* each, at 5 per cent. interest, but although 2,000*l.* has been subscribed in the Colony for this work, the erection of the new building has been suspended indefinitely by order of the Secretary of State.

No. 5.—" The Supplementary Appropriation Ordinance, 1881."

No. 6.—" The Stamp Ordinance." This Ordinance was passed in great haste during my absence on vacation leave under a mistaken impression that a deficit was to be apprehended at the end of the year. I think it my duty, however, to state that the Ordinance is working satisfactorily, and that I should be sorry to see it repealed now that it has been brought into operation, as it will add about 700*l.* per annum to the revenue.

No. 7.—" The Government Office Clerks' Ordinance." This provides for two clerks to be placed under the immediate control of the officer administering the Government, and to perform such duties as he may assign to them.

No. 8.—" The Provost-Marshal's Ordinance." It had been intended to combine the office of Provost-Marshal with that of Registrar, and an Ordinance had been prepared, with the approval of the Secretary of State, for that purpose, but at the last moment instructions were received to withdraw the Bill, and it therefore became necessary to provide for a salary for the Provost-Marshal, as the Ordinance of 1878 confined the salary to the then holder of the office, Mr. Breen, in anticipation of the proposed consolidation.

No. 9.—" The Jury Ordinance." This Ordinance merely consolidates " The Jury Act of 1875," and " The Jury Ordinance, " 1880."

No. 10.—" The Distressed (St. Vincent) Seamen's Relief " Ordinance." This provides for the relief of seamen, natives of St. Vincent, found in distress abroad, and provides for their return to this Colony.

No. 11.—"The Acquisition of Land Ordinance." This enables the Government to acquire lands for public uses in any part of the Colony, and is intended to meet difficulties, which may arise under the following circumstances.

Whole islands in the Grenadines have been sold by former Governors without any reserves of Crown lands, and it is by no means improbable that the stationing of revenue officers in these islands, for the prevention of smuggling, may be resisted on the ground of trespass, and that proprietors may object to sell any land to the Government for sites for preventive stations; again, the Government may want to purchase land for the purpose of erecting public buildings, such as hospitals, medical officers' quarters, &c., upon sites which the owners might decline to sell, or even, if willing to sell, for which an exorbitant price might be demanded.

5. The following eight Ordinances were also passed in 1882, viz:—

The Weights and Measures.
The Kingstown Regulation.
The Highway.
The Liquor License.
The Registry.
The Tonnage Dues.
The Spirit Duties.

These enactments consolidated the laws upon all these subjects with the exception of that regulating weights and measures, and they should have gone home in July or August in time to be inserted in the revised edition of the laws of St. Vincent, which I had hoped the Attorney-General would have edited whilst in London in the latter part of 1882. They appear, however, to have been lost sight of during my absence on vacation leave, and it was not until my return in September, that I discovered the oversight, when it was too late to send them home, and the publication of the revised edition of the laws had therefore to be postponed.

Criminal Statistics.

6. These tables show a very satisfactory diminution in the number of cases of prædial larcenies; I attribute this decrease (68 in 1882 as against 151 in 1881) to the agreement come to with the police magistrates (at a meeting to which I summoned them last year) to pass sentences of peremptory imprisonment with hard labour in all cases of prædial larceny, instead of imposing fines or simple imprisonment.

Civil Establishment.

7. Under the Circular Despatch from the Secretary of State of the 30th of March 1881, I went on leave (vacation) in July 1882; but in consequence of the condition imposed under the circular, viz., that of not remaining within the tropics, I had to pass 35 out of the 42 days at sea in getting away from and returning to St. Vincent.

ST. VINCENT.

Education.

8. In my report on the Blue Book for 1881, I referred to the expediency of consolidating State-aided schools where two or three are situated in close proximity to one another; also that the system of pupil teachers should be introduced into St. Vincent. Owing, however, to the large number of Ordinances which the Attorney-General was occupied in consolidating for the new edition of the laws, I was unable to proceed with these changes, as although the Board of Education is quite ready to go along with me in reducing the number of schools, and in the appointment of pupil teachers we found our hands were tied by the provisions of the Education Act, which renders it imperative on the Local Government to support every school of every denomination, which comes up to a certain fixed standard; and further, because the payment of pupil teachers must be contingent upon the abolition of a certain number, probably 14 out of 65 paid masterships. The question of compulsory education has also been raised, but pending instructions upon this very important subject, I have not considered it expedient to encourage the discussion of the question.

General Remarks.

9. I am glad to say that the suggestion I made in my report on the Blue Book of 1880 has been acted upon, and that the lunatic asylum has been recently broken up, the female lunatics having been transferred to Grenada, where better means are at the disposal of that Government for the treatment of these unfortunate people.

During the visit of the Royal Commissioners appointed to inquire into the public revenues, expenditure, debts, and liabilities of St. Vincent (among other islands), I had occasion to call attention to the fact that the people of this Colony are taxed a fraction less than 14*s.* a head per annum; this, I believe, is lower taxation in proportion to its population than in any other of the Crown Colonies in the Windward Islands, and will bear favourable comparison even with that of Barbados.

The old Government House at the "Garden" was pulled down in July last, an Ordinance having been passed and assented to for raising a loan of 4,000*l.* for building another on the same site, but after 2,000*l.* had been subscribed by the Colonists for this object, orders were received to stay further action in the matter, and I am sorry to say that one-half year's interest has already been paid on this amount for which the Colony has nothing to show. In concluding these general remarks I am happy to be able to report that the health of the Island was good during 1882; that of the indentured immigrants being remarkably so.

I have, &c.

(Signed) AUGUSTUS FREDK. GORE,
Lieutenant-Governor.

His Excellency
Sir William Robinson, K.C.M.G.
&c. &c. &c.

TOBAGO.

No. 6.

Governor ROBINSON, C.M.G., to the Right Hon. the EARL OF DERBY.

Grenada, April 14, 1883.

FORWARDED.

The Right Hon. (Signed) WILLIAM ROBINSON.
The Earl of Derby,
&c. &c.

Government House, Tobago,
March 24, 1883.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Excellency my report upon the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1882.

2. No changes were made in taxes, duties, or fees in the past year.

3. The revenue amounted to 13,661*l.* In 1880 it was 14,003*l.*, and in 1881 16,830*l.* The following figures show the receipts, in pounds, from the various sources of revenue in each of these years:—

——	1880.	1881.	1882.
Customs.	£	£	£
Import duties	6,108	8,364	5,769
Tonnage dues	510	524	392
Light dues	155	173	143
Wharf dues	119	139	108
Harbour and pilotage	132	129	78
Warehouse rent	29	42	51
Excise.			
Duty on rum	1,387	1,511	1,649
Revenue stamps	353	265	242
Licenses.			
Liquor	216	237	18 4
Stills	107	98	10 5
Animals	1,163	1,132	1,101
Guns, boats, and boatmen	92	93	84
Taxes.			
Arrears of land tax	131	140	150
Sugar estates	1,255	1,487	1,147
Other lands and tenements	1,344	1,293	1,324
Commutation road tax	169	174	207
Fines, forfeitures, and fees of court	447	477	544
Fees of office	191	209	88
Postage	—	198	196
Rents	44	55	36
Miscellaneous receipts	40	80	53

TOBAGO.

4. The import duties, it will be observed, were below the receipts in 1880, and considerably less than those in 1881. The dues on shipping were, also, much less than in the previous two years; a smaller crop in the year under report will account, in part, for the diminution in these dues; but the admission of steamers upon payment, only, of the sum of 1*s.* 3*d.* per ton of cargo landed or taken off, has helped in no small degree towards the diminution.

5. There was a trifling increase in the duty on rum made and consumed in the Colony, but it was nothing like the increase which should have been obtained, seeing that in 1880, and 1881 up to the 25th November, the duty was 3*s.* per proof gallon, and that in 1882 it was 4*s.* per proof gallon. It is true that in the last year a larger quantity of gin was brought into consumption, but even so I fear the revenue suffered from illicit trade.

6. The quinquennial valuation of land and tenements, which was taken in 1881–2, resulted in diminished values in respect of many estates, and consequently in reduced receipts in taxes The failure, also, in the middle of the year of a London house with which several of the estates were connected caused monetary difficulties, and in many instances delay in the payment of the taxes.

7. The receipts under the head of fees of office were derived from the Marshal's office, the other fees having been paid in stamps.

8. The expenditure of 1882 was 12,610*l.*; and, adding arrears of 1881 which were also paid to the extent of 1,139*l.*, the total expenditure in 1881 was 14,844*l.*, but of this the sum of 2,000*l.* was in payment of debt and interest.

9. Local revenues are not raised in this Colony.

10. There is no Public debt.

11. The following table shows the financial position of the Colony at the 1st of January in this year:—

Assets.	£	*Liabilities.*	£
Cash balance on 30th December 1882 -	1,359	Due for salaries of fixed establishments for December 1882 -	550
Balance in hands of Crown Agents at 30th December 1882 -	167	Due for services exclusive of establishment -	710
Remitted to them on 27th September 500*l.*, on 4th October 500*l.* -	1,000	Due on warrants drawn but unpaid - -	14
		Due for estimated payments to be made by Crown Agents -	343
		Surplus of assets	909
	2,526		2,526

12. Under the head of military expenditure the sum of 136*l.* 2*s.* 9*d.* is shown to have been expended in support of the

two volunteer rifle corps, which are enrolled and doing duty in Scarborough and in the windward part of the Island. Great Britain incurred no expenditure for the military protection of the Colony, nor in aid of its civil establishment.

13. More attention was bestowed on public works in 1882 than in any year for some time past. A stone building in the town of Plymouth, which had been erected some 50 years ago as a prison, and the woodwork of which had been allowed to fall into complete decay, was rebuilt at a cost of 212*l.*, and adapted as a police station and magistrates' court. By this expenditure not only does the Colony possess a creditable building, suitable in every respect for a station and court room, but it effects a saving of 20*l.* a year, (or 10 per cent. on the outlay), which for a long while had been paid for ruinous and ill-adapted premises that were hired as the police station.

14. The old gaol in the town of Scarborough was likewise repaired and converted into the police magistrates' office and court room. On the ground floor good warehouse accommodation is also provided. The amount paid at 31st December for these repairs was 175*l.* 16*s.* 4*d.*; but bills rendered and paid early in January of this year, amounting to 53*l.* 14*s.* 11*d.*, brought the total cost to 229*l.* 11*s.* 3*d.*

15. Considerable repairs and improvements were effected to the hospital at a cost of 125*l.* 10*s.* 5*d.*; of which the sum of 80*l.* 0*s.* 4*d.* was paid prior to 31st December, and 45*l.* 10*s.* 1*d.* in January last.

16. A sum of 61*l.* 16*s.* 4*d.* was spent in repairs to the buildings at Government House, and 185*l.* 4*s.* 8*d.* in repairs to various other public buildings.

17. On roads, streets, and bridges the sum of 1,318*l.* 3*s.* 5*d.* was expended, of which 1,181*l.* 13*s.* 2*d.* was paid in 1882, and the balance in January of this year.

18. In legislation several important measures were perfected. In the month of May an Ordinance was brought into operation for the purpose of exempting steam vessels from payment of port dues upon their registered tonnage, and to admit them to trade upon payment only of a duty of 1*s.* 3*d.* for every ton of cargo they should land or take away. The Ordinance also affords facilities for the landing and shipment of cargo from steamers immediately on their arrival, and without detention further than may be necessary for that purpose, the recognized agent of a steamer being empowered, on certain conditions, to transact all such business at the Custom House as is usually transacted by the master, and being allowed to do this business irrespective of the movements of the steamer, provided it is done within 24 hours after her arrival.

19. On the 30th of June "an Ordinance to provide for public "vaccination," and "an Ordinance to repeal an Act entitled 'An "'Act for the registration of Births, Marriages, and Deaths, and "'to make better provision in lieu thereof'" were proclaimed.

TOBAGO.

The former Ordinance was the first enactment, which had been passed in the Colony respecting compulsory vaccination; and the latter established a more complete and efficient system for the registration of births, marriages, and deaths, prohibiting, amongst other things, the interment of the dead except in public cemetries or in licensed burial grounds.

20. An Ordinance "to repeal 'The District Medical Officers "'Act,'" and to make other provisions in lieu thereof, which became law on the 29th of September, is a valuable measure affording medical aid and medicines gratuitously to handicraftsmen, menial and predial servants, boatmen and porters, when over 60 years to their children when under eight years of age, and to all sick and destitute persons of whatever age or class. It also provides medical aid and medicines, on a moderate fixed scale of charges, to persons of the class above named, when over eight years and under 60 years of age. This law, administered by medical men of honest and scrupulous minds, must carry the greatest comfort and relief into the homes of the poor artizans, and labourers. Under its provisions four medical men receive stipends of 200*l.* a year to secure their services. It is almost an obligation on the Government to subsidize medical men in a colony like Tobago, in which there are no wealthy residents, and but few persons of even moderate means. There would, otherwise, be no inducement for medical men to come and settle in the Colony and the inhabitants, unless this were done, would be without the opportunity of obtaining medical care, even in time of serious illness or of epidemics.

21. There were temporary changes in the councils. Mr. Albert Lewis, the Attorney General, an *ex officio* member of the Executive and Legislative Councils, was transferred temporarily to the Attorney Generalship of St. Vincent in the month of August, and Mr. Walter Monnington, a magistrate of the island of Barbados, who was appointed to act as Attorney General, sat in his official capacity in both councils to the end of the year. Mr. S. B. Isaacs, a member of the Executive Council, and an unofficial member of the Legislative Council, was absent on leave from the 2nd March to the 1st of December. In his absence Mr. Kirk, the inspector of police and Inland Revenue, filled his place in the Executive Council.

22. In the civil establishment there were a few changes. Dr. Shiers, the Medical Officer of the No. 1 district, died on the 6th January, and was succeeded by Dr. Witz. Mr. James Armstrong C.M.G., the Chief Justice, having resigned his appointment in December 1881, was succeeded by Mr. John W. Carrington D.C.L., who assumed the duties of his office in the month of May. Mr. Simon J. Fraser, the magistrate of the Windward District, was absent on leave from the 6th of April to the 2nd of December; in his absence his duties were performed by Mr. M. J. Berkeley, whom his Excellency the Governor in Chief sent from Barbados for the purpose.

23. The pension list remained as in the past year; Mr. H. L. Byng, late Colonial Secretary and Auditor, receiving 73*l.* 17*s.* 4*d.*

24. The population by the census of the 3rd of April 1881 was 18,051 (8,694 males and 9,357 females). In the nine months to 31st December of that year there was an addition by excess of births over deaths of 121, making a total estimated population of 18,172. In 1882 the natural increase was 296. Therefore, subject to the action of emigration and immigration, of which there is no record, the population at the close of the past year may be taken to have been 18,468. I fear, however, that these figures cannot be taken as representing the actual population, as it seems indisputable that more persons quit the Colony than come to it.

25. The education returns show that there were nine schools in connexion with the Church of England, having 854 children on the registers, receiving in Government aid 212*l.* 10*s.* 11*d.*, and from school fees and voluntary contributions 205*l.* 3*s.* 8*d.*, giving a total cost of 417*l.* 14*s.* 7*d.*, or an average expense for each school of 46*l.* 8*s.* 3*d.*; six schools in connexion with the Wesleyan Methodists, having 350 children on the registers, receiving 175*l.* 18*s.* in Government aid, and 108*l.* 8*s.* 4*d.* from school fees and voluntary contributions, making a total cost of 284*l.* 6*s.* 4*d.* or an average expense for each school of 47*l.* 7*s.* 9*d.*; six schools in connexion with the Moravian mission, having 734 children on the registers, receiving 153*l.* 14*s.* 7*d.* in Government aid, and 111*l.* 16*s.* 7*d.* from school fees and voluntary contributions, making a total expense of 265*l.* 11*s.* 2*d.*, or an average of 44*l.* 5*s.* 2*d.* for each school.

26. The school fees from the 854 children in the Anglican schools were 51*l.* 18*s.* 6*d.*; from the 550 children in the Wesleyan schools, 54*l.* 13*s.* 3*d.*; and from the 734 children in the Moravian schools, 99*l.* 0*s.* 7*d.*; giving an average of 1*s.* 2*d.* per head in the Anglican schools, 1*s.* 11*d.* per head in the Wesleyan, and of 2*s.* 8*d.* per head in the Moravian schools.

27. I annex a copy of the report by Mr. Fraser, the Inspector of Schools, with copy of a table showing the results of his examinations for 1882.

28. The value of imported goods was 46,927*l.*, and the duties derived therefrom 5770*l.*; in 1881 the value of these goods was 59,582*l.*, and the duties 8,365*l.*, showing a decrease in 1882 of 12,655*l.* in the values, and of 2,595*l.* in the duties. The decrease is due to an over-stocked market in 1881, and to diminished trade, consequent on the small sugar crop in 1882; and, also, to the crops raised by the labourers, of Indian corn and other provisions, which were abundant, having met their wants without recourse to imported bread stuffs.

The value of imports from Great Britain was 24,376*l.*, from British Colonies 22,531, and from foreign countries 20*l.*

TOBAGO.

29. The value of exported goods was 48,245*l.*, of which 48,186*l.* were the produce and manufacture of the Colony, in 1881 the figures were respectively 83,524*l.*, and 83,582*l.*

30. The following were the principal articles of local production and manufacture which were exported.

—		Quantity.	Value.
			£
Cattle (neat) - - - -		131	1,048
Cedar wood - - - -		—	74
Cocoa - - - -	Bags	60	210
Cocoa-nuts - - - -	-	813,545	2,847
Fowls - - - -	Dozen	216	162
Goats - - - -	-	355	177
Hardwood - - - -	-	—	12
Hides - - - -	-	156	29
Horses - - - -	-	19	190
Limejuice - - - -	Pun.	31	155
Logwood - - - -	Tons	18½	50
Molasses - - - -	Pun.	657	2,628
Pigs - - - -	-	138	103
Rum - - - -	Pun.	204	2,040
Sheep - - - -	-	28	21
Sugar - - - -	Hhds.	3,068	37,768
Wood fuel - - - -	Cord	561	505

31. The subjoined table shows the number of vessels which entered and cleared at the port of Scarborough in 1882 and in the previous two years. The Royal mail steamers, and the direct line steamers, which began to call here in June last, are now included in the shipping returns, hence the increase in the numbers in this table for the year 1882.

Year.	No. of Vessels entered.	No. of Tons.	No. of Crews.	No. of Vessels cleared.	No. of Tons.	No. of Crews.
1880	134	6,901	721	129	7,603	771
1881	145	7,788	779	146	8,093	811
1882	151	26,837	2,247	143	23,676	2,116

32. The prison return exhibits a general decrease in commitments, and a considerable decrease in those for penal imprisonment. The daily average in prison was only 27 · 3, and the daily average on the sick list 6 · 5. There was no death in the prison. The debtor's Ordinance, which abolished imprisonment for debt, having been brought into operation on the 31st December 1881 there were no commitments for debt in 1882. The table here-

under gives a comparative statistical return for the last three years :—

Year.	No. of Commitments.	For Debt.	For custody till Trial or for want of Sureties.	For Penal Imprisonment.	Once convicted before.	Twice convicted before.	Thrice or more before.	Committed for five years or more.	For one and less than five years.	For more than three months and less than one year.	For three months or less.	Daily average in Prison.	Admissions to Hospital.	Daily average on Sick List.	Number of Deaths.
1880	89	1	10	78	22	10	13	—	1	1	76	33	128	9·15	1
1881	131	3	12	116	27	10	18	2	8	3	103	32	135	9·6	—
1882	92	—	7	85	17	13	9	1	2	2	·80	27·3	80	6·5	—

33. The criminal statistics compare favourably with former years. In the inferior courts there were fewer cases and fewer convictions; while in the superior courts there were only four convictions, one for arson and three for other offences against property.

Comparison of last three Years

——	1880.	1881.	1882.
Number of cases before the magistrates -	1,132	983	866
Number of summary convictions :—			
Offences against the person - -	92	107	91
Prædial larceny - - - -	17	28	15
Other offences against property - -	17	34	41
Other offences - - - -	396	301	253
Number of convictions in superior courts :—			
Offences against the person - -	6	3	—
Arson - - - - -	—	1	1
Other offences against property - -	2	2	3
Number of persons acquitted :—			
In the inferior courts - - -	121	97	142
In the superior courts - - -	6	—	1

34. The hospital return shows that 69 male and 26 patients were admitted during the year, and that 13 male and 11 female patients remained in hospital from the previous year; thus 82 males and 37 females, making a total of 119 patients, were in hospital in 1882, but 5 of these were children not suffering from disease, and only admitted with their parents. The daily average in hospital was 27. There were 18 deaths. The death-rate on the number treated was 15·78, and on the bed-rate 66·66 per cent.

35. The year 1882 was a very trying year for the planters. The excessive drought, commencing in December of the previous

TOBAGO.

year and continuing until the middle of May, seriously injured the sugar crop then being reaped, retarding, too, the growth of the canes for the present year. To this may mainly be attributed the very small quantity of sugar that was made.

36. But much of the depression which weighs on the Colony is owing to the scant means given to the cultivation of the soil. The land is fertile, and seems well adapted for the sugar cane. The yield of sugar per acre from a well-cultivated field is large, and the quality of it is good. Were more money and more attention bestowed on the cultivation of the soil the beneficial results would be felt throughout the Colony. As now conducted, the estates do not give continuous employment to the labourers, who, were matters differently managed, would be found too few in number for the work to be done. Capital, immigrant labour, and an improved system are needed; with these, and if possible with more proprietors residing in the Island, who would have at heart the well-being and advancement of its people, and the general development of its resources, Tobago would soon again be found a thriving Colony.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD LABORDE.

His Excellency
Governor Robinson, C.M.G.,
&c. &c. &c.

SIR, Pembroke Cottage, March 13, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to submit to the Board of Education the subjoined table (A) embodying the results of my examination of the Government aided schools of this Colony for 1882. There is also a table (B) showing the amount of fees received by each school during that year.

2. In compliance with the request of the Rev. A. H. Aguilar, and on his stating to me that he would apply to have the Goodwood (Wesleyan) School replaced on the list of aided schools, I made an examination of it on the basis of the present rules, the result of which is hereto appended (C).

3. It is perhaps necessary for me to remind the Board that the present examination has been governed entirely by the new rules framed and passed while I was away in Europe on leave.

4. A reference to the principal table will show that notwithstanding the change in the rules the Government grant, supplemented this year by 50*l.* has again been exceeded. The total sum earned and the claims for school material and schoolmistresses amount to 719*l.* 14*s.* 9*d.*, making an overplus of 169*l.* 14*s.* 9*d.*

5. Only one school has attained first class, the Scarborough Wesleyan. It is well, however, to observe that this was mainly owing to the teacher, Mr. Prince, having judiciously refrained from presenting children of the first grade who would, by increasing is divisor, have tended to reduce his premium. Had the same

judgment been exercised with regard to some of the other schools they would probably have gained first class positions also. I confess that in this respect I am pleased with the alteration in the rules, as it operated to prevent the examination papers being crowded with the names of children barely able to do the rudiments. The pupils here were consequently of a fair standard and, on the whole, were equally advanced in all the subjects for which they were presented. It would be well if the more advanced subjects were limited to pupils attaining a decent standard in reading and writing.

6. With the object of rousing the interest of those having charge of the schools, and to incite them to procure a proper supply of books and other material, I assigned a proportion of two and half out of the six marks, which I am empowered to give under rule 20 to the schools I found properly furnished. I accordingly gave the maximum of marks to the Moriah and Montgomery schools, as in this respect, as in every, other I found them fit models for the other schools to imitate. To the Scarborough Wesleyan school I would also have assigned the whole number of marks if it had not been deficient in school material. Application was made to me to increase the marks I had given to the Bethesda and Mason Hall schools, but I did not think it prudent to alter my decision lest I should receive similar applications on behalf of other schools. The Bethesda school, and also the Whim and St. John's, had fallen below the third class; but I prefer, under rule 27, to recommend them to the Board for third class grants.

7. I regret that Bible history has been so graded as to make it almost doctrinal. The tendency in England now is to the exclusion of the religious element, leaving biblical knowledge to be imparted in Sabbath schools or on days specially set apart for the purpose. If taught it should be confined to a general knowledge of the historical parts of the Old Testament. It would perhaps be better if the schools were made altogether undenominational. Considering that the amount of the grant and the school fees together exceed the salaries of the teachers it will be admitted that the schools are virtually supported by the Government, the ministers merely providing the buildings and exercising supervision and control.

8. I am sorry that the suggestion in section 9 of my last report, with respect to Fridays being given up as a regular school day, has not received the consideration of the Board, for I am more than ever convinced that its adoption would have a salutary effect. It being borne in mind that the children are mainly from the labouring class and that their parents require them for household duties, I submit that Monday to Thursday inclusive would suffice for their educational wants.

9. The only schools fully supplied with books and other necessary material are the Moravian schools and St. Mary's, St. Paul's, St. John's, and Parlatuvier. Section 2 of the rules makes it a condition precedent that a school be properly furnished to entitle it to receive Government aid. Unless those now mentioned as

TOBAGO.

deficient are supplied by the close of the present half year, it will be my duty to draw the attention of the Board to them. I do not think it proper for me to obtrude my suggestions as to the number or character of the books, &c., needed.

10. I examined nine pupils presented by the Moriah, Scarborough Wesleyan, Scarborough Anglican, Mount St. George, and St. Mary's schools in the sixth grade subjects with the view to their being employed at some future time as pupil teachers. The results are as follows:—

1. Samuel E. Morris, Moriah	Passed
2. William Sampson, Moriah	"
3. John Davis, St. Mary's	"
4. Archie C. John, Moriah	"
5. William John, Moriah	"
6. Henrietta Edwards, Mt. St. George	"
7. James Phillip, Scarborough Wesleyan	Failed
8. Calver Proctor, Scarborough Anglican	"
9. Samuel Peterkins, Scarborough Anglican	"

Samuel Morris stood prominently in advance of the others, exhibiting in his answers much intelligence.

11. I regret having to say that this examination so far as I am personally concerned has been by no means as satisfactory as I should have wished; for the hurry with which I was forced to proceed with it, at much inconvenience, immediately on my return to Tobago and without any preparation caused me to omit several matters which I had been anxious to inquire into. I more particularly regret this, as I visited several schools of a similar character in England with the object of observing their system of instruction and examination.

12. Remarking the steady progress made by the schools every year since they have been under Government supervision and have been paid by results, and noting the gradual increase in the number of children, I cannot help thinking that there will be the ever-recurring difficulty of dealing with the premiums earned. Year by year, owing to the efforts of the teachers and the increase in the schools, the amount voted has been exceeded by the premiums, necessitating reductions to bring it within the grant. If the resolution of the Board, passed some years ago, as to the desirability of having compulsory education had then been carried into effect the claim for primary education would now have been considerably larger than it is. But even without this the difficulty of meeting the claim constantly looms before us; and education here presents the aspect of an army ever swelling in numbers and advancing on us with resistless march, while, as yet, we have been coping only with its van.

I have, &c.

(Signed) S. J. FRASER,
Inspector of Schools.

Hon. Albert Lewis, Q.C.,
Chairman Board of Education.

A.—Table showing Results of Examination of Government aided Schools for 1882.

No.	Name and Religious Denomination.	No. of Pupils in School in 1882.	Examinates.	Average daily Attendance.	Divisor.	Marks gained.				Total No. of Marks.	Result.	Marks for organisation, &c.	Total Marks.
						1st Grade.	2nd Grade.	3rd Grade.	4th Grade.				
	Anglican.												
1	Scarborough	129	92	90	92	136	378	234	176	924	10	5	15
2	The Whim	101	38	42	42	83	62	51	52	248	6·2	2	8·2
3	Plymouth	104	78	56	78	147	252	213	108	720	9	3	12
4	St. Patrick	113	61	61	61	115	184	189	216	704	11·50	4	15·50
5	Les Coteaux	95	46	48	48	76	224	177	68	545	11	4	15
6	Parlatuvier	44	22	25	25	56	64	51	28	199	8	2	10
7	St. Mary	117	72	68	72	75	178	267	292	812	11	5	16
8	St. Paul	93	44	44	44	73	80	132	28	313	7	5	12
9	St. John	58	29	34	34	26	30	21	—	77	2	2	4
		854	482	468	496	787	1,452	1,335	968	4,542	75·70	32	107·70
	Moravian.												
1	Moriah	115	112	91	112	115	366	309	604	1,394	12·44	6	18·44
2	„ Infant	170	51	93	93	52	—	—	—	52	—	—	—
3	Montgomery	151	92	67	92	132	346	336	228	1,102	12	6	18
4	„ Infant	162	102	89	102	48	—	—	—	48	—	—	—
5	Bethesda	84	63	58	63	81	122	105	32	340	5·25	4	9·25
		682	420	398	462	428	834	750	864	2,936	29·69	16	45·69
	Wesleyan.												
1	Scarborough	116	66	66	66	53	224	267	476	1,020	15·50	5	20·50
2	Mount St. George	120	114	73	114	137	242	132	312	823	7·18	4	11·18
3	Mason Hall	86	73	64	73	68	200	210	140	618	8·50	4	12·50
4	Ebenezer	95	56	52	56	103	164	111	136	514	9	3	12
5	Mount Stuart	75	56	46	56	82	94	207	76	459	8·2	2	10·2
6	Castara	58	31	29	31	58	140	48	100	346	11	2	13
		550	396	330	396	501	1,064	975	1,240	3,780	59·38	20	79·38
	Grand total	2,086	1,298	1,196	1,354	1,716	4,250	3,060	3,072	11,258	164·77	68	232·77
	*Bon Accord (Moravian)	52											
		2,138											

*Bon Accord School was not examined, having been closed at the end of last year (1882) for lack of support by the inhabitants of the district.

A.—Table showing Results of Examination of Government aided Schools for 1882—*continued.*

No.	Name and Religious Denomination.	Class of School.	Class Grant.	Capitation Grant.	Amount for Appliances, &c.	Amount for Sewing Mistress.	Total.
	ANGLICAN.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1	Scarborough	2	18 0 0	23 0 0	4 2 0	6 0 0	51 2 0
2	The Whim	3*	12 0 0	7 12 0	1 19 2	6 0 0	27 11 2
3	Plymouth	3	12 0 0	15 12 0	2 15 2	6 0 0	36 7 2
4	St. Patrick	2	18 0 0	15 5 0	3 6 6	6 0 0	42 11 6
5	Les Coteaux	2	18 0 0	11 10 0	2 19 0	6 0 0	38 9 0
6	Parlatuvier	3	12 0 0	4 8 0	1 12 10	6 0 0	24 0 10
7	St. Mary	2	18 0 0	18 0 0	3 12 0	6 0 0	45 12 0
8	St. Paul	3	12 0 0	8 16 0	2 1 7	6 0 0	28 17 7
9	St. John	3*	12 0 0	5 16 0	1 15 7	6 0 0	25 11 7
			132 0 0	109 19 0	24 3 10	54 0 0	320 2 10
	MORAVIAN.						
1	Moriah	2	18 0 0	28 0 0	4 12 0	6 0 0	56 12 0
2	„ Infant	—	12 0 0	5 2 0	1 14 2	—	18 16 2
3	Montgomery	2	18 0 0	23 0 0	4 2 0	6 0 0	51 2 0
4	„ Infant	—	12 0 0	4 16 0	1 13 7	—	18 9 7
5	Bethesda	3*	12 0 0	12 12 0	2 9 2	6 0 0	33 1 2
			72 0 0	73 10 0	14 10 11	18 0 0	178 0 11
	WESLEYAN.						
1	Scarborough	1	24 0 0	19 16 0	4 7 7	6 0 0	54 3 7
2	Mount St. George	3	12 0 0	22 16 0	2 5 7	6 0 0	43 1 7
3	Mason Hall	3	12 0 0	14 12 0	2 13 2	6 0 0	35 5 2
4	Ebenezer	3	12 0 0	11 4 0	2 6 4	6 0 0	31 10 4
5	Mount Stuart	3	12 0 0	11 4 0	2 6 4	6 0 0	31 10 4
6	Castara	3	12 0 0	6 4 0	1 16 0	6 0 0	26 0 0
			84 0 0	85 16 0	15 15 0	36 0 0	221 11 0
	Grand total		288 0 0	269 5 0	54 9 9	108 0 0	719 14 9

* These three schools have not attained the requisite number of marks for 3rd Class, but are recommended for support.

B.

AMOUNT of FEES received by the SCHOOLS in 1882.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
ANGLICAN—						
Scarborough	10	12	11			
The Whim	1	14	11			
Plymouth	9	12	9			
St. Patrick	7	8	1			
Les Coteaux	4	1	2			
Parlatuvier	2	10	8			
St. Mary	11	19	7			
St. Paul	1	5	6			
St. John	2	12	11			
				51	18	6
MORAVIAN—						
Moriah, Juvenile	33	12	0			
„ Infant	13	18	0			
Montgomery, Juvenile	22	7	9			
„ Infant	12	18	8			
Bethesda	10	19	2			
Bon Accord	5	5	0			
				99	0	7
WESLEYAN—						
Scarborough	9	4	5			
Mount St. George	15	15	7			
Mason Hall	11	11	9			
Ebenezer	7	13	4			
Mount Stewart	5	12	2			
Castara	4	16	0			
				54	13	3
Total				205	12	4

C.

RESULTS of EXAMINATION of GOODWOOD (WESLEYAN) SCHOOL.

No. of pupils in 1882.	Examinates.	Average daily attendance.	Divisor.	Marks gained.					Result.	Marks for organisation, &c.	Total marks.	Class of school.	Class grant.	Capitation grant.	Amount for appliances.	Amount for sewing mistress.	Total.
				1st grade.	2nd grade.	3rd grade.	4th grade.	Total marks.									
74	30	27	30	57	48	51	20	176	5·9	2	7·9	3	£ 12	£ 8	£ 2	£ 6	£ 28

St. Lucia.

ST. LUCIA.

No. 7.

Governor Robinson, C.M.G., to the Right Hon. the Earl of Derby.

My Lord, Barbados, March 10, 1883.

I have the honour to transmit the report of acting Administrator Dix on the St. Lucia Blue Book for 1882.

2. In reference to the proposed introduction of a similar system into Saint Vincent, I would draw attention to the success which has attended the working of the new system of collecting the Excise Duty on rum. I append a statement, for your Lordship's information, showing the manner and cost of its collection.

I have, &c.

(Signed) William Robinson.

The Right Hon.
The Earl of Derby,
&c. &c.

Administrator Dix to Governor Robinson.

Sir, Government House, February 27, 1883.

I have the honour to submit to your Excellency the following report on the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1882.

2. The Blue Book is now in the hands of the printers and shall be forwarded as soon as completed.

Taxes, Duties, &c.

3. The Trade Ordinance, 1881, which came into force on the 9th day of December of that year continued in operation during the year 1882. The import duties were levied under this Ordinance. A copy of the tariff is annexed.

4. The tonnage duty of one shilling and eight pence per ton levied on account of General Revenue on vessels entering and clearing with cargo was abolished on the 1st day of June last.

5. The rate payable for a licence to distil rum was reduced by Ordinance No. 21 of 1881 from 100*l.* to 50*l.*, and took effect on the 1st January 1882.

6. With the above exceptions the taxes and duties remained the same as in the year 1881.

Revenue and Expenditure. ST. LUCIA.

7. The total amount of "General Revenue" for 1882 was 38,952*l.* 17*s.* 11*d.*, and the total expenditure 34,772*l.* 9*s.* 7*d.*

8. The following comparative statement shows the general revenue and expenditure in the last five years :—

	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1878 - - - -	28,297	32,757
1879 - - - -	31,872	32,090
1880 - - - -	32,431	31,918
1881 - - - -	32,291	32,653
1882 - - - -	38,953	34,772

9. The large increase in the revenue of 1882 as compared with that of 1881 is attributable in a great degree to the financial measures introduced and carried out by his Honour Mr. Goldsworthy.

10. The following statement shows the sources of revenue in which the increase has chiefly taken place :—

	1881.	1882.	Increase.
	£	£	£
Import duties - - -	17,592	19,580	1,988
Rum (excise) duties - -	6,118	9,449	3,331
Road tax (excise) duties -	1,218	1,923	705
Stamp duties - - -	237	821	584
Fines, forfeitures, and fees -	1,977	2,333	356

11. The amount collected from the excise duty on rum in 1882 is the largest ever realised in any one year; fully bearing out the opinion expressed by Mr. Goldsworthy in his report on the Blue Book for 1881 as to the cause which led to the falling off in the revenue from this source. Without one exception every licensed distillery has accounted for a much larger quantity of rum made since the Ordinance providing that no distillation should be carried on except in the presence of a revenue officer came into operation. In some cases the quantity was more than doubled. The following comparative statement showing the quantity of

rum accounted for at the several licensed distilleries in the years 1881 and 1882 respectively speaks for itself:—

Name of Estate.	Accounted for in 1881.	Accounted for in 1882.	Increase.
First District.	Gallons.	Gallons.	Gallons.
Marquis - - - -	3,851	9,920	6,069
Ressource - - - -	6,213	9,026	2,813
Second District.			
Palmiste - - - -	2,608	6,055	3,447
Ruby - - - -	5,276	9,701	4,425
Reunion - - - -	5,493	10,547	5,054
Mt. Lezard - - - -	1,679	6,729	5,050
Third District.			
Fonds - - - - -	5,022	8,313	3,291
Total - - -	30,142	60,291	30,149

12. The expenditure of 1882 was considerably larger than that in 1881, arising chiefly from the maintenance of a more efficient staff of revenue officers, and, as will be seen below, a larger expenditure on account of public works.

13. The surplus of revenue over expenditure was 4,180*l.*, the largest obtained for very many years past.

14. Of the loan of 4,000*l.* from "General Revenue" to the Castries Town Board there remained due at the close of the year the sum of 2,800*l.* The annual instalments and interest on the loan are regularly paid by the Board.

Local Revenues and Expenditure.

15. The revenue on account of the several local or special funds in 1882 was as follows:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Casual revenue of the Crown - -	613	6	11
Castries town fund - - -	1,895	5	10
Towns' and villages' fund - -	459	2	3
Police and revenue officers reward fund - - - -	115	2	9
Immigration fund - - -	5,038	8	1
Total revenue - -	8,121	5	10

16. The expenditure was as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Casual revenue of the Crown - -	72	18	5
Castries town fund - - -	1,932	4	11
Towns' and villages' fund - -	806	9	2
Police and revenue officers reward fund - - - -	34	3	0
Immigration fund - - -	3,181	6	6
Total expenditure -	6,027	2	0

17. The aggregate amount to the credit of the special funds including the sum of 6,000*l.* in deposit at interest in the Colonial Bank on account of the "Immigration Fund," was at the close of the year 8,718*l.* 12*s.* 2*d.*

Public Debt.

18. The public debt of the Colony at the close of 1882 was 33,000*l.*, composed as follows:—

	£.
Central sugar factory debentures undrawn - - -	27,100
Immigration debentures - -	5,900
Total - - -	33,000

19. These debentures bear interest at the rate of six per cent. per annum. An amount sufficient to meet the interest and to form a sinking fund for the redemption of the debentures is regularly remitted to the Crown agents. The sum required for the Central Factory debentures is a charge upon the "General Revenue;" that for the Immigration debentures upon the "Immigration Fund."

Public Works.

20. The sum of 3,645*l.* 13*s.* 10*d.* was expended in the up-keep of the public roads and bridges.

21. A new hospital with surgeons' quarters and out-offices was erected at Dennery on the windward side of the island, at a cost of 1,445*l.* 4*s.* 4*d.* It is capable of containing 30 beds, and is intended chiefly for the accommodation of the indentured Indian immigrants located on the estates in that quarter. It was opened for the reception of patients on the 22nd day of July last. Besides the resident surgeon, it has a staff consisting of a matron, an assistant matron, and a cook.

22. A lighthouse was in the course of erection at the "Vigie," a small promontory on the northern side of the entrance to the Castries harbour, during the year, and was completed on the 1st February last. The light, a dioptric apparatus of the fifth order, is at an elevation of about 300 feet above sea level. It is a fixed red light, and will be exhibited every night from the above date.

ST. LUCIA.

A signal station has also been established at the same place, whence also the mid-day signal gun is fired.

23. A considerable sum was expended on the "Court House," which was in a ruinous state, and on other public buildings. The total expenditure on account of Public Works, including roads and bridges, was 6,146*l.* 4*s.*

24. A survey of the harbour of Castries with the view of ascertaining the feasibility of removing certain shoals and rocks which obstruct the easy approach of steamships to the wharves was undertaken by Mr. George L. Good, the engineer sent out for the purpose by Sir John Coode. His official report has not yet been received, but from what he stated to me personally I understood that there are no obstructions in the harbour which cannot be removed easily by dredging. A powerful steam dredge will be required for the purpose, and the first cost of the dredge, and the working expenses, will no doubt entail a heavy outlay, but the amount required can without difficulty be raised on debentures; the interest on which, and a sinking fund for their redemption can, in the present prosperous condition of the Colony, be easily provided.

Legislation.

25. Ten Ordinances were passed during the year, of which the following are the most important.

No. 1.—6th January 1882 "to regulate the dispensing, and "sale of drugs and poisons in this Colony."

No. 2.—11th April 1882. "To promote the introduction of "agricultural labourers from Barbados into this Colony."

No. 5.—9th May 1882. "To empower the Governor to "appoint land surveyors to survey the boundaries of land in "this Colony."

No. 6.—9th May 1882. "To provide in respect of cemeteries."

No. 8.—1st June 1882. "To amend the Tax Ordinance 1875."

No. 9.—2nd August 1882. "To demonetize Silver dollars."

No. 12.—4th September 1882. "To provide for the attend-"ance of prisoners as witnessses in criminal proceedings."

26. By Ordinance No. 8 the tonnage duty of 1*s.* 8*d.* per ton levied on vessels under "The Tax Ordinance, 1875," was abolished.

Civil Establishment.

27. Mr. Goldsworthy was appointed to administer the Government of St. Vincent in July, and returned to St. Lucia on the 21st of September. In November he was appointed to administer the Government of Grenada. On both occasions I was appointed to administer the Government of this Colony, and have continued to do so up to the present time.

28. Dr. I. Worrell Carrington, D.C.L., was appointed Chief Justice of St. Lucia in succession to Mr. James Armstrong, C.M.G.,

and arrived in the Colony on the 2nd May last. Dr. Carrington is, as was his predecessor, also Chief Justice of the Island of Tobago.

29. Mr. T. Newton Browne was appointed Chief Clerk in the Government Office and Clerk of Councils in the room of Mr. Charles I. McLeod appointed Provost Marshal of St. Vincent, and Mr. Charles Meagher 2nd clerk in Government office was appointed Chief Clerk in the Treasury *vice* Mr. Charles Clements appointed Chief Clerk in Government Office St. Vincent.

30. The following changes and appointments were made in the Treasury, Customs, and Inland Revenue departments and in the Audit Office. Mr. I. I. Meagher acted as treasurer between 1st May and 18th July, and again between 31st July and 20th September. Mr. John Semper acted as treasurer between 27th November and 11th December, Mr. H. Hastings Mitchell acting as auditor in his room for the same period. Mr. D. Gloster Garraway was appointed to act as treasurer on the 11th December, and continues to do so up to the present time. Mr E. W. Lord, Junior Sub.-Inspector of Police, was appointed Chief Landing Waiter and Revenue Officer, his former office being abolished. Messrs. E. L. Richardson, A. Lacorbiniere, E. H. Moore, I. E. Peirce, A. Palmer and H. Barrow were appointed Landing Waiters and Revenue Officers. Mr. H. H. Mitchell, Auditors' clerk, was appointed 2nd clerk, and Mr. George Smith, 3rd clerk in the Treasury, and Mr. Francis Fergusson was transferred from the Treasury to the Audit Office. Mr. François Loustan, and Mr. R. John Dick, Landing Waiters, were removed and placed upon the pension list.

31. The following changes and appointments were made in the Medical department:—Messrs. I. W. Montieth and G. P. Doyle were appointed Colonial Assistant Surgeons and Immigration Medical Officers in the room of Messrs. R. M. Freeman and W. Duncan, transferred to the Medical department of British Guiana. Mr. S. F. Proctor was appointed a Colonial Assistant Surgeon, &c., *vice* Dr. Monteith, deceased, and Mr. M. P. Duke was appointed to the new office of 5th Colonial Assistant Surgeon and Immigration Medical Officer, and placed in charge of the new Hospital at Dennery.

32. Mr. Albert Codé was appointed Land Surveyor under "The Boundaries Settlement Ordinance, 1882."

Population and Vital Statistics.

33. The following information has been supplied by the Registrar of Civil Status:—The population on the 1st day of January 1882 numbered 39,289 souls. During the year 1,692 births and 827 deaths were registered. These figures do not include still-births. Thebirth-rate per cent. of the population was 4·31, and the death-rate 2·10. There were 106 still-births. The still-births represent 6·26 per cent. of the live births. The national increase of

ST. LUCIA.

the population was 865, which raised the population to a total of 40,154 souls on the 31st December 1882.

There was no Coolie immigration in that year.

Savings Banks.

34. The number of depositors at the close of the year was 126, and the amount in deposit 923*l.* 6*s.* 3*d.* The amount deposited during the year was 824*l.* 7*s.* 0*d.* and the amount withdrawn 414*l.* 3*s.* 0*d.* Depositors receive interest at the rate of 3 per cent. per annum on their deposits.

35. District Savings Banks at Soufriere, in the Second District, and Vieuxfort, in the Third District, are about to be established.

Ecclesiastical.

36. No change has been made in this establishment. The Roman Catholic clergy receive 1,100*l.*, and the Protestant clergy 400*l.* of the Legislative Vote of 1,500*l.* as heretofore.

Education.

37. No change has been made in the system of education. The Legislative Vote of 1,150*l.* is equally divided between the Protestant and Roman Catholic committees.

Trade.

38. The following statement shows the value of the imports and exports for the last three years :—

	Imports.	Exports.
	£	£
1880 - - - -	127,362	194,695
1881 - - - -	120,135	168,479
1882 - - - -	133,500	222,719

39. The following are the values of the imports and exports from and to the several countries with which trade has been carried on during the year 1882.

	Imports.	Exports.
	£	£
United Kingdom - - -	55,793	199,780
British Colonies - - -	17,751	1,348
France - - - -	11,177	3,964
United States - - -	39,336	2,375
Other Foreign Countries - -	9,443	15,252
Total - -	133,500	222,719

Shipping.

40. The following comparative statements show the number, tonnage, and crews of Sailing Vessels and Steam Ships entered and cleared at the port of Castries in the years 1881 and 1882:—

Sailing Vessels.

	Entered.			Cleared.		
	No.	Tons.	Crews.	No.	Tons.	Crews.
1881 - - -	187	18,022	1,119	190	17,244	1,169
1882 - - -	220	20,933	1,363	220	21,364	1,382

Steam Ships.

	Entered.			Cleared.		
	No.	Tons.	Crews.	No.	Tons.	Crews.
1881 - - -	133	170,063	5,743	134	170,417	5,730
1882 - - -	139	180,954	5,560	138	180,048	5,520

41. Of the sailing vessels which entered the port in 1882, 163, with a burthen of 12,984 tons, were British, 5 were American, 1 Austrian, 1 Danish, 4 Dutch, 36 French, 5 German, and 5 Norwegian, with an aggregate burthen of 7,949 tons; and of the steam ships, 115, with a burthen of 165,690 tons, were British, and 24, with a burthen of 15,264 tons, were French.

Agriculture.

42. The following statement exhibits the quantities of the staple products of the Colony exported in the last three years:—

Sugar.	1880.	1881.	1882.
Muscovado - - - Lbs.	13,332,800	9,481,250	12,974,500
Usine - - „	1,420,160	1,836,800	3,839,360
Molasses - - - - Galls.	250,200	226,800	304,500
Rum - - - - „	195	62	90
Cocoa - - - Lbs.	438,108	524,612	302,262

Gaols and Prisoners.

43. The number of persons committed to prison in 1882 was 394. Of these 177 were for safe custody till trial or for want of security, and 217 for purposes of penal imprisonment, of which latter number 153 were men and 64 women.

44. Of the number of persons committed to penal imprisonment, 13 were for one year or more but less than five years, 12 for more than three months but less than one year, and 192 for three months or less.

Criminal Statistics.

45. The following comparative table shows the number and discription of offences, and the number of apprehensions, convictions, and acquittals in the years 1880, 1881, and 1882:—

	1880.	1881.	1882.
Number of persons apprehended - -	1,930	2,089	2,141
Number of Summary Convictions.			
1. Offences against the person - - -	212	200	234
2. Prædial larceny - - -	48	84	28
3. Offences against property other than prædial larceny - - - - -	57	98	101
4. For other offences - - - -	485	449	730
Number of Convictions in the Superior Courts.			
1. Offences against the person - - -	2	13	6
2. Prædial larceny - - - -	—	—	—
3. Offences against property other than prædial larceny - - - - -	8	16	11
4. For other offences - - - -	1		2
Number of Persons acquitted.			
1. In the inferior courts - - -	1,110	1,119	1,019
2. In the superior courts - - -	8	13	9

46. This table shows an increase in the number of summary convictions in the classes of offences 1, 3, 4, but a marked diminution in prædial larceny, Class 2, and in the convictions in the Superior Courts in 1882, as compared with the previous year.

General remarks.

47. The health of the island was uniformly good throughout the year. It has been said that the climate of St. Lucia is an unhealthy one; but that such is not the case can be seen by reference to the death-rate for many years past. The death-rate for the year under review was 2·10 per cent. only.

48. The sugar crop of the island generally was considerably above the average. The St. Lucia Central Sugar Factory, in which the Government is largely interested, turned out 1,670 tons of crystallized sugar, more than double the quantity produced in the previous year. The net profit to the Company on the working account was 11,335*l.* 3*s.* 8*d.*

49. Another Central Sugar Factory has been established in the Mabouya Valley, on the eastern side of the island. The company to which it belongs is composed chiefly of gentlemen from the neighbouring French island of Martinique. The capital invested is 60,000*l.*, out of which the Company purchased the estates of Mr. Emmanuel Du Boulay for the sum of 25,000*l.* Had these estates been offered for sale two years ago they would not, in all probability, have fetched half that sum.

50. As a further instance of the increasing value of property in the island I would mention the case of the estates in the valley of Roseau. In November 1879 they were sold for 4,750*l.*, the purchasers sold them in January 1882 for 24,000*l.*, and within the last few weeks they have again been sold for the sum of 56,000*l.* The present proprietors have purchased these estates with the object of establishing a Central Sugar factory on a large scale in that valley also.

57. The port of Castries has become a coaling station not only for merchant steam ships but also for vessels of war. During the year six ships of the United States Navy, the "Vandalia," "Alliance," "Powhattan," "Enterprise," "Shernandoah," and "Kearsage" were coaled; the largest, drawing 22 feet of water, being able to come alongside the wharf.

52. Women are chiefly employed in coaling the ships, and it affords them a very profitable employment. They are, generally, of the class which would otherwise earn but a very scanty subsistence.

53. The British Fleet consisting of Her Majesty's ships the "Northampton," "Dido," "Flamingo," "Fantome," and "Firebrand," under Vice Admiral Sir Leopold McClintock, visited St. Lucia on the 30th of January and remained in port a few days.

54. An agricultural society has, as your Excellency is aware, been recently formed, which will no doubt contribute much towards the development of the natural resources of this fine island.

I have, &c.
(Signed) MACNAMARA DIX,
Administrator.

His Excellency
Governor Robinson, C.M.G.,
&c. &c. &c.

ST. LUCIA.

Statement showing the Excise duty on Rum, and the manner and cost of its collection.

1878.	1879.	1880.	1881.	1882.
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
7,986 19 0	9,305 3 2	7,175 10 2	6,117 18 7	9,448 17 3

The Excise duty on rum is fixed by Ordinance No. 6 of 1875 at 2*s.* 10*d.* for every gallon of proof, 25, according to the bubble, and at one penny half-penny additional for each degree above 25.

All distilleries are required to take out a licence in the first instance at a cost of 50*l.* per annum, and distillations take place under the immediate supervision of an Excise officer.

Proprietors of distilleries pay at the rate of 3*s.* per diem for each day that the officer is in attendance at the distillery. There is no separate staff for the collection of the excise duty on rum; this duty, as is the case with all other public revenue, is paid into the Treasury. The officers connected with this department for the collection of revenue, generally, and the performance or Customs and Excise duties, are as follows:—

	£
Colonial treasurer - - - -	500
Chief clerk, do. - - - -	150
Second do. do. - - - -	100
Third do. do. - - - -	90
Chief landing waiter - - -	150
Second do. do. - - -	125
Third landing waiter - - -	115
Four landing waiters, revenue officers, and allowances - - - -	500
Sub-collector of customs - - -	50
	1,780

Previous to 1882, when the present staff was fixed, the revenue department was as follows:—

	£
Treasurer - - - - -	500
1st clerk - - - -	125
2nd clerk - - - -	100
Keeper of spirit warehouse - - -	100
Commissions to sub-collectors - -	180
	1,005

D. G. GARRAWAY,
Acting H. M. Treasurer.

easury,
3th February 1883.

ANTIGUA.

No. 8.

Administrator PORTER to the Right Hon. the EARL of DERBY.

Government House, Antigua,
July 14, 1883.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith the Blue Book of this Presidency for 1882, with my report thereon.

I have, &c.
(Signed) NEALE PORTER,
Administrator.

The Right Hon.
the Earl of Derby,
&c. &c.

REPORT on the BLUE BOOK of the PRESIDENCY OF ANTIGUA for the Year 1882.

Government House, Antigua,
July 14, 1883.

REPORT.

Finance.

Revenue.	Expenditure.
47,008*l.*	53,702*l.*

The revenue comprised 2,000*l.* raised at 4 per cent. to pay off that amount of debentures bearing interest at six per cent.

In the expenditure was included 10,100*l.* repayment of local loan, 1,100*l.* contribution to Waterworks Sinking Fund, and 200*l.*, a fixed annual instalment, in repayment of money borrowed from the Government Savings Bank from time to time in aid of the revenue. This assistance has been availed of to the extent of 8,800*l.*, of which amount 8,600*l.* remains due. No fixed interest is paid on this floating debt; the Savings Bank receives what is required for depositors' interest in respect of it, and for the management of the Savings Bank department. There was a new charge on the Treasury in 1882, viz., this Presidency's proportion of the purchase money of the colonial steam yacht "Nooya," 984*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.*, and of that vessel's maintenance from

ANTIGUA.

9th February to 31st December, 721*l.* 12*s.* 10*d.*, together 1,706*l.* 0*s.* 4*d.*

	31st Dec. 1882.			31st Dec. 1881.		
	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*
Cash balance to credit of the Presidency - - - -	150	8	1	7,738	11	9
Balance in hands of Crown Agents	1,365	17	9	471	14	3
	1,516	5	10	8,210	6	0

Trade.

	Imports.	Exports.
	£	£
1882 - - -	179,717	270,845
1881 - - -	151,883	178,581

Agriculture.

The quantity of sugar exported, regard being had at the same time to the price obtained, may be taken as the measure of prosperity enjoyed by that interest on the maintenance of which everything depends in this Island, unadapted as it is from climate and physical character for the cultivation of those other valuable tropical products which form no inconsiderable part of the resources of many of the British West India Islands.

The crop of 1882 was large, viz., 15,103 hhds., against 10,193 hhds. in 1881, and 14,824 hhds. in 1880. There were also exported in 1882 8,350 puncheons of molasses.

Of the crop of 1882 there were shipped to the United States of America 7,390 hhds., 940 tierces, and 1,692 barrels of sugar; 3 tierces = 2 hhds, 1 hhd. = 8 barrels, and 3,944 puncheons of molasses.

These figures show that half of the staple produce of the Island was sold on the spot or shipped to America on planter's account.

There is in this significant evidence of the extent to which the growers of sugar have become free from the control of English consignees.

Legislation.

There were two sessions of the General Legislative Council of the Leeward Islands, one in June, and another in November. In the former, fourteen Acts were passed, the most important being "an Act for the purchase of a steam vessel for the use of "the Colony of the Leeward Islands" and "an Act for the "union of the Presidencies of St. Christopher and Nevis."

Six Acts were passed in the second session; amongst them were, "an Act to further amend the Leeward Islands Act, 1871," and "an Act to authorise the payment, under certain conditions, of an "increased subsidy to the West India and Panama Telegraph "Company."

In the Local Legislative Council of Antigua thirteen Acts were passed; of these may be mentioned "an Act to authorise the "payment of a subsidy in aid of the education of the middle and "upper classes of the population in Antigua."

Schools.

Education in this Presidency, as in the other Islands constituting the Colony of the Leeward Islands, is promoted by Government grants in aid under the Federal Act of 1874.

Antigua.

	1875.	1881.	1882.
Daily average attendance] -	1,830	2,394	2,331

This return shows a slight decrease in 1882 as compared with 1881, to be accounted for, probably, by the demand for the labour of children caused by a large sugar crop. 38 schools were aided, and the total amount given by the Government was 997*l.* 16*s.*

Act No. 10 of 1882 provides for the payment of an annual subsidy of 200*l.* for a period of ten years in aid of the education of the middle and upper classes of the Presidency, the object being to encourage the establishment of a suitable school of a high order.

Vital Statistics.

Antigua is unhappily distinguished from the other Presidencies constituting the Colony of the Leeward Islands, and, it may be added, from all the other West India possessions of the Crown, by the stationary, if not declining, number of her people. The report of Dr. McHattie, the Registrar-General, for 1882, states "the number of marriages registered was 137 against 224 in "1880. The number of births registered was 1,406, of deaths "1,465. The death rate for the year was 42·6 per 1,000, and the "birth rate 40·9, and the mortality was greater during the last "quarter of 1882 than it had been for any corresponding quarter "of which I have any record.

"The excessive mortality, particularly among infants, is generally attributed to defects in the system of medical relief for the labouring class. This however, is not correct, for though the

ANTIGUA.

system of medical relief is by no means perfect, yet by it medical aid is brought within the reach of every person in the Island; the excessive mortality among our labouring population arises from a variety of causes, the principal of which are the want of proper sanitary regulations, defects in the water supply, the want of proper care of, and nourishment for, the children, but particularly the gross neglect of the sick of all ages by their friends, which often renders fruitless all efforts on the part of the medical man to afford relief to the suffering."

The general correctness of the foregoing must, I fear, be admitted, and although the Government has not been inactive, it behoves us to give increased attention to remedial local measures and practical administration, without which the abounding churches, schools, medical relief, and charitable institutions can only partially elevate and aid the people and benefit the community at large.

(Signed) NEALE PORTER.

MONTSERRAT.

MONTSERRAT.

No. 9.

Administrator PORTER to the Right Hon. the EARL OF DERBY.

Government House, Antigua,
June 23, 1883.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship the Blue Book of the Presidency of Montserrat for the year 1882, with the Acting President's report thereon.

I have, &c.
(Signed) NEALE PORTER,
Administrator.

The Right Hon.
The Earl of Derby,
&c. &c.

President's Office,
Montserrat, May 31, 1883.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward to his Excellency the Governor the Blue Book of this Presidency for 1882 with the accompanying report thereon.

Finance.

	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
For 1881 - - - - -	5,317	5,718
„ 1882 - - - - -	5,692	5,834

The following is a comparative statement of the amounts received from the chief sources of revenue in 1881 and 1882 :—

—	1881.	1882.
	£	£
Import duties - - - -	2,125	2,529
Export „ - - - -	431	480
Excise duty on rum manufactured in the island and entered for home consumption 2*s.* 6*d.* per imperial gallon, with extra 1*d.* for every degree above proof, and a similar reduction below proof - -	776	709
Land and house tax of 15*s.* per 100*l.* of assessed value - - - -	1,188	1,194
Horse tax of 9*s.* on each horse over two years of age - - - - -	1	193
Licenses for the retail of spirits, wines, &c. -	2	195
	4,934	5,300

The increased revenue derived from imports in 1882 of 400*l.* is chiefly attributable to a duty of 2*s.* per barrel on wheat flour, which gave 256*l.* Prior to 1870 the duty on wheat flour was 4*s.* per barrel and from 1870 to 1881 flour was free of duty, and on oilmeal, hitherto free, a duty of 1*s.* per 100 lbs. was imposed in 1882, which gave 26*l.* 5*s.* There was also in 1882 an increase of 1*s.* per imperial gallon on imported brandy and whiskey; the former duty being 3*s.* per gallon; the increase gave 26*l.* 13*s.*

Assets and Liabilities on 31*st December* 1882.

Assets.	£	*s.*	*d.*
Balance of deposit at Colonial Bank -	8	15	7
Cash in treasury - - -	178	14	2
Crown Agents on Waterwork account -	9	8	6
Waterworks Sinking Fund - -	40	10	0
	237	8	3

Liabilities.

	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*
Arrears of Federal Expenditure:—						
Purchase of Nooya - -	187	10	0			
Upkeep of Nooya - -	50	17	1			
Contribution to Establishments	67	16	4			
				306	3	5
Sir O. Nugent; Gratuity - - -				31	5	0
Waterworks Debentures - - -				3,000	0	0
Imperial Post Office - - -				8	8	
Crown Agents: Dr. Pilkington - -				13	6	2
„ ½ year's Waterworks Sinking Fund and Interest - -				90	0	0
„ Supplies - - -				6	7	2
„ Money Order Account -				35	18	3
				3,491	8	9

MONTSERRAT.

The value of imports and exports for 1881 and 1882 :—

	Imports.	Exports.
	£	£
1881 - - - - -	25,346	35,205
1882 - - - - -	28,780	38,120

There has been during 1882 a marked improvement in the trade of the island.

Shipping.

	Entered.				Cleared.			
Year.	Steamers.	Sailing Vessels.	Tons.	Crew.	Steamers.	Sailing Vessels.	Tons.	Crew.
1881 -	—	243	6,891	922	—	246	6,480	952
1882 -	10	286	16,167	1,379	6	290	12,996	1,305

These returns are exclusive of the Royal Mail Steamers, which call twice a month to land and take away mails and passengers.

One of the steamers of Messrs. Scrutton, Sons, & Co.'s "direct line" call here once a month taking freight and passengers for the islands and for the United Kingdom.

The following tables show the chief articles of export in 1882 as compared with 1881.'

Year.	Sugar.			Molasses.	Lime Juice, concentrated.		Lime Juice, raw.	
	Hhds.	Tons.	Barrels.	Puns.	Puns.	Hhds.	Puns.	Hhds.
1881 -	5	1,914	2,779	218	14	136	881	—
1882 -	18	3,028	2,394	540	—	159	374	1

(*continued*).

Year.	Lime Essence.		Pickled Limes.	Fresh Limes.	Tamarinds.		Horned Cattle.
	Cases.	Carboys.	Barrels.	Boxes.	Barrels.	Kegs.	
1881 -	44	3	200	782	139	10	193
1882 -	5	—	150	216	221	13	126

Savings Bank.

Dr. £	s.	d.		Cr. £	s.	d.
—			7 depositors of less than 1*l.* - - -	2	1	5
—			7 „ over 1*l.*, and less than 5*l.* - -	16	14	5
—			2 „ „ 5*l.* „ „ 10*l.* - -	11	19	6
—			7 „ „ 10*l.* „ „ 20*l.* - -	107	0	2
—			1 „ „ 20*l.* „ „ 30*l.* - -	20	15	0
—			3 „ „ 30*l.* „ „ 40*l.* - -	97	15	8
—			1 „ „ 50*l.* „ „ 60*l.* - -	54	17	8
—			1 „ „ 70*l.* „ „ 80*l.* - -	75	16	11
—			1 „ „ 80*l.* „ „ 90*l.* - -	85	2	4
—			1 „ „ 100*l.* - - -	108	11	8
			31	580	14	4
21	10	7	Interest account.			
350	0	0	Deposits at Interest.			
209	3	9	Cash.			
580	14	4		580	14	4

The advantages of this institution are being better understood by the labouring population and small tradesmen, who are availing themselves more generally of it to lay up their small savings.

Population.

—	Males.	Females.	Total.
By census of 1881 -	4,639	5,444	10,083

—	Births.	Deaths.
1881 - - - -	453	193
1882 - - - -	445	221

The birth and death rates on the population by the last census are for 1881: Births, 4·49 per 100; deaths, 1·92 per 100; for 1882: Births, 4·41 per 100; deaths, 2·19 per 100; the still births in 1881 (16) were 3·53 per cent. of the births, and in 1882 (11) 2·47 per cent.

General Remarks.

The island keeps up its reputation for healthiness. The cultivation of the land is being extended, and on an improved system. Land that a few years ago was sold in lots at 6*l.* per acre would now fetch 40*l.* per acre. The labouring population are civil, and as a rule are obedient to the laws. The labourer enjoys many advantages which contribute to his comfort, hence the little desire there is to emigrate.

MONTSERRAT.

The capitation rate of taxation on the revenue being 11*s.* compares favourably with the rate of other colonies.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. MEADE,
Acting President.

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary
of the Leeward Islands, Antigua.

ST. KITTS.

ST. KITTS.

No 10.

Administrator PORTER to the Right Hon. the EARL OF DERBY.

Government House, St. Kitts,
August 25th, 1883.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to forward to your Lordship the Blue Book of the island of St. Christopher for the year 1882, with the Acting President's report thereon.

I have, &c.

(Signed) NEALE PORTER.

The Right Hon.
The Earl of Derby,
&c. &c.

President's Office, August 21, 1883.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit the Blue Book for the past year, and to offer a few remarks on some of the principal heads of service recorded therein.

Finance.

	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*
The receipts during the year from all sources of revenue were - - -				32,851	17	4
Receipts Basseterre loan of principal, interest and fire insurance - -				14	4	11
				33,666	2	3
The expenditure was -	31,394	6	6			
Basseterre loan and interest -	762	17	3			
Debit balance, January 1st -	392	1	2			
Arrears 1881, paid - -	75	6	6			
				32,624	11	5
Leaving a credit balance of -				1,041	10	10

In addition to this sum, amounts in the hands of the Crown Agents and the Federal Government were quite sufficient to liquidate any outstanding liabilities.

The balance in the immigration fund is 9,150*l.*, which is invested in the Colonial Bank at 3 per centum interest.

A comparison with 1881 gives the following results:—

Revenue.

Increased.	£	*s.*	*d.*	*Decreased.*	£	*s.*	*d.*
Import duties - -	2,058	16	1	Fines - - -	199	15	2
Export duties - -	481	18	0	Excise duty - -	180	6	3
Cavalry tax - -	648	1	8	Liquor licenses - -	85	0	0
Export tonnage - -	357	15	3	Miscellaneous - -	198	16	3
Inward tonnage and package - - -	386	11	7				
Judicial stamps - -	211	16	10				
Small services - -	64	12	7				
Basseterre building loan -	211	13	2				
	4,421	5	2		663	17	8
Revenue 1881 - -	29,908	14	9	Revenue 1882 - -	33,666	2	3
	34,329	19	11		34,329	19	11

Expenditure.

Increase.	£	*s.*	*d.*	*Decrease.*	£	*s.*	*d.*
Federal expenses } Purchase steamer } -	1,666	12	2	Ecclesiastical - -	307	10	7
Medical service - -	164	13	6	Pensions - - -	115	9	1
Loss postal union -	206	0	0	Census - - -	126	8	5
Works and buildings -	467	9	8	Arrears - - -	400	0	0
Roads, streets, and bridges	455	14	10	Basseterre protection works - - -	974	6	2
Sanitary - - -	183	9	5	Expenses flood - -	843	13	4
Arrears - - -	467	7	8	Small services - -	170	3	3
Militia - - -	290	7	8				
Small services - -	226	4	11				
	4,127	19	10		2,937	10	10
Expenditure 1881 -	31,434	2	5	Expenditure 1882 -	32,624	11	5
	35,562	2	3		35,562	2	3

It is gratifying to notice a gradually increasing usefulness of the savings bank, but it is by no means to the extent that the prosperous state of the island would lead one to expect.

—	1880.	1881.	1882.
Depositors for less than 1*l.* -	5	9	16
„ „ 5*l.* -	11	14	29
„ „ 10*l.* -	7	11	8
„ „ 20*l.* -	1	12	10
„ „ 30*l.* -	4	6	6
„ „ 40*l.* -	3	3	5
„ „ 50*l.* -	1	1	4
„ „ 60*l.* -	1	1	4
„ „ 70*l.* -	1	—	2
„ „ 80*l.* -	1	—	—
„ „ 90*l.* -	1	1	—
„ „ 100*l.* -	1	1	1
„ over 100*l.* - -	5	7	9
	1,256*l.* 12*s.* 9*d.*	1,932*l.* 14*s.* 11*d.*	2,458*l.* 19*s.* 2*d.*

ST. KITTS.

The only liability of the island is 1,200*l.* of the Basseterre Town Improvement Loan that has been absorbed from time to time in the general revenue, and representing loans that have been paid off before the expiration of the period for which they were borrowed.

Exports and Imports.

The exports for the past four years have been—

—	Sugar.	Molasses.	Rum.
	Hogsheads.	Puncheons.	Puncheons.
1879 - - -	12,325	3,096	543
1880 - - -	12,681	3,630	385
1881 - - -	11,477	3,578	440
1882 - - -	13,961	5,053	600

The value of exports is returned as follows:—

Exported to	Produce and Manufacture of the Presidency.	British, Foreign, and other Colonial Produce.	Total.
	£	£	£
United Kingdom:			
1879 - - - -	137,061	93	137,154
1880 - - - -	128,165	—	128,165
1881 - - - -	129,338	—	129,338
1882 - - - -	171,151	—	171,151
British Colonies:			
1879 - - - -	3,752	9,496	13,248
1880 - - - -	4,068	7,205	11,273
1881 - - - -	1,785	6,639	8,424
1882 - - - -	10,449	11,979	22,428
Foreign Colonies:			
1879 - - - -	16,346	9,476	25,822
1880 - - - -	38,825	7,749	46,574
1881 - - - -	67,547	7,772	75,319
1882 - - - -	60,577	7,330	67,907

The value of imports for the same period has been—

Imports from	1879.	1880.	1881.	1882.
	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom -	91,355	77,205	80,459	86,308
British Colonies -	25,163	23,382	12,697	17,143
Foreign Colonies -	60,725	66,940	76,530	85,379

Shipping.

The tonnage entering for the past four years has been—

—	Sailing Ships.		Steamers.	
	With Cargo.	In Ballast.	With Cargo.	In Ballast.
British:				
1879 - - -	21,234	4,419	—	—
1880 - - -	17,577	3,810	91,395	—
1881 - - -	13,114	5,031	106,228	—
1882 - - -	20,153	5,647	113,217	—
Foreign:				
1879 - - -	8,890	4,732	—	—
1880 - - -	12,090	699	—	—
1881 - - -	10,760	1,254	—	—
1882 - - -	13,325	877	—	—

Legislation

during the year was embraced in 15 Ordinances, and may be classified and described as follows :—

Federal.—Power was given to the general legislature to deal with masters and apprentices; clothing belonging to seamen in Her Majesty's Navy ; and to purchase a steamer for the use of the Federal Government.

Constitutional.—An Ordinance was passed abrogating the local legislature, and sanctioning a union of the islands of St. Christopher, Nevis, and Anguilla with a united legislature.

Customs and Finance.—The usual appropriation enactments providing for the public service were passed.

The export tax for immigration purposes was remitted for one year. Drawback was allowed on goods exported, which had paid duty for consumption. Articles, the growth and produce of the islands in the Presidency, were admitted free of duty, and the town of Sandy Point, at the west end of the island, was made a port of entry.

Municipal.—The duties of the town warden were transferred to the superintendent of police, and power for making rules and regulations for the government of the towns, the fire brigade, piers, &c., were sanctioned under the authority of the Governor and Council.

Legal.—The enrolment of Ordinances in the Registrar's Office was made obligatory.

Public Works.—Measures were passed for introducing water into the Leeward district of the island.

Education.

The inspector of schools reports a slight falling off in the numbers of the children attending the schools, but no alteration in classification of the schools.

ST. KITTS.

Works and Buildings.

The only new work contemplated is the supplying the towns of Sandy Point and Dieppe Bay, and the surrounding country, with water; this work will extend over 11 miles of country, and is one of the utmost importance.

Population.

The births exceeded the deaths by 121, being 1,298 births against 1,177 deaths. The analyser of vital statistics reports with reference to the health of the island for the year as follows :—

"The mortality (1,177) for the whole year has been considerably above the average, as may be seen by comparing it with the death rates of the five preceding years, which are as follows :—

1877.	1878.	1879.	1880.	1881.
1,062	957	1,017	1,078	1,041

"It is greater by 99 than the highest of the other years in this table, and is 146 above their average. The latter figure is made up by the following contributions of the several parishes, that is to say, all these parishes have exceeded their averages of the last five years to the extent mentioned in the annexed tabular statement.

St. George.	St. Peter.	St. Mary.
15	10·6	17·8

Christ Church.	St. John.
3·4	51·6

St. Paul.	St. Ann.	St. Thomas.	Trinity.
7	27·2	10	3·4

"The large mortality of the year has therefore occurred chiefly in St. John's and St. Ann's. The choleraic epidemic among chil-

dren in the quarter ended 30th September fell heavily on the former parish, and raised its death-rate to an unusually high figure; but St. Ann's has steadily maintained throughout the year a very unhealthy condition. This has doubtless been due to the want of a sufficiency of good water, a want now happily about to be relieved. The figures just given clearly point out the necessity for prompt action in this matter. The usual mortality in St. John's is not nearly so great in proportion to its population as is that of St. Ann's; and though it has this year, from the prevalence of an epidemic, exceeded its average to a greater extent even than St. Ann's, yet the latter has still had a higher death-rate in proportion to population. The numbers are, St. John's 41·56, and St. Ann's 42·86 per thousand.

"The births in this year have been very numerous (1,298), and in spite of the large mortality, which has amounted to 40·39 per thousand for the entire population of the island, have exceeded the deaths by 121; but the excess of the birth over the death rate during the preceding five years averaged 191 per annum.

General.

The rainfall of 1881 was excellent, and amounted to 60·08 inches. The expectations of the planters were fully realized, and a sugar crop, larger than any that has been reaped for a quarter of a century, namely, 13,961 hogsheads, was manufactured. But the dry and favourable harvest weather, while daily increasing the richness of the cane juice, was causing serious injury to the succeeding crop of 1883, and it culminated in the severest drought that had visited this island for many years; the rainfall only amounted to 35·25 inches. The early part of 1883 was more rainy than usual, and a saving crop will be reaped.

Steam communication with England and the United States is being more and more developed, and the geographical position of this island is most favourable for developing a depôt trade for the foreign islands lying to the west and north, and St. Kitts promises in the future to be an important commercial centre. In anticipation of this, increased landing and warehousing accommodation are under consideration.

The opening up of the western portion of the island by making the town of Sandy Point a port of entry, and the contemplated water supply in that direction, over a district of 11 miles, will tend to relieve the pressing want for water and enhance the value of property.

The daily inter-insular postal service amounted to the carriage and distribution of some 16,000 letters, papers, and parcels during the year, and the importance of the service suggests a further development by means of a post cart, and the distribution of foreign correspondence throughout the island.

Crime presents no peculiar features; our peasantry are law-abiding, and offences are not, as a rule, of a serious character,

ST. KITTS.

One case of manslaughter was the result of a fight on board a foreign ship in the roadstead.

Eighteen hundred and eighty-two was the last year of this island's individuality; its future will be interwoven with Nevis and Anguilla, and the inter-federated interests of 44,059 persons will form the nucleus of the most important portion of the Leeward Islands Government. It is fervently to be hoped that the past prosperity of St. Kitts will be shared by those islands whose future has been linked with her own.

I have, &c.

(Signed) C. M. ELDRIDGE,
Acting President.

The Right Hon.
The Earl of Derby,
&c. &c.

NEVIS.

NEVIS.

No. 11.

Governor Sir J. H. GLOVER, G.C.M.G., to the Right Hon. the EARL OF DERBY.

Government House, St. Kitts,
May 7, 1883.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship the Blue Book of the Island of Nevis for the year 1882, with the acting President's report thereon.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN H. GLOVER,
Governor.

The Right Hon.
The Earl of Derby,
&c. &c.

President's Office, April 30, 1883.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you three copies of the Blue Book for the Island of Nevis for the past year.

My limited official association with the Island, dating as it does from the 1st of January, must be offered as my excuse for the brevity of this report.

The subject of legislation holds a paramount position of importance in 1882, as amongst its Ordinances will be found one for uniting the interests of the Island with those of St. Christopher, a measure of vast importance, the results of which will be watched with marked interest. The proximity of the Islands (under two miles) seems to imply that nature herself contemplated the union.

Legislation.

Seventeen Ordinances were passed during the year. Three conferred powers of legislation on the General Legislative Council of the Leeward Islands, for (No. 11) the building and ordering of masters and apprentices.

No. 12. The protection of the clothing and property of seamen of Her Majesty's Navy; and

No. 13. The effecting of a union of the Presidency of Nevis with that of St. Christopher.

Twelve Ordinances related more or less to finance.

No. 1 Repeals the Immigration Export Tax.

No. 2 largely increases the export duty for the purposes of the general revenue from 3*s.* 6*d.* to 8*s.* 6*d.* per hogshead.

No. 3 suspends the land Tax (1*s.* 2*d.* cultivated, 4*d.* uncultivated) for the year.

No. 4 reduces and assimilates the import duties to those of St. Christopher for one year.

No. 5 repeals land tax of 4*d.* per acre on cultivated land for the purpose of the destruction of rats, and imposes a tax of 1*s.* per hogshead on sugar.

No. 6 provides a supplementary estimate for 1882 (1,400*l.* 12*s.* 7*d.*)

No. 7 sanctions the purchase (375*l.*) and annual maintenance of a Colonial steamer (308*l.*).

No. 8 re-imposes horse and carriage duty at a moiety of the former rates.

No. 9. re-imposes the dog tax.

No. 14 provides a supplementary estimate for 1882 (790*l.*).

No. 15 admits, free of duty, in prospect of the union of the Island with St. Christopher, articles of its growth, &c.

No. 17 continues the reduced tariff for another year.

The Medical staff are allowed, by Ordinance No. 10, a fee of 2*s.* on each successful case of vaccination.

Ordinance No. 15 amends the provisions of the Export Tax Act, 1877, as regards the shipping of produce.

The Revenue

Amounted to 9,285*l.* 2*s.* 10*d.*, being 1,582*l.* 7*s.* 2*d.* in excess of the preceding year.

The difference arising thus:—

Increase.

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Import duty -	247	0	10½
Export duty -	1,882	9	10½
Tonnage dues -	71	11	8½
Rum licenses -	79	0	0
Rat tax - -	246	15	0½
Other sources -	76		10½
	2,603	0	4½

Decrease.

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Land Tax -	459	7	10½
Horse and carriage - -	225	9	0
Land rat tax -	168	1	8
Fines and forfeitures -	58	16	3½
Boat tax repealed -	85	8	5
Other sources -	23	9	11½
Balance - -	1,582	7	2
	2,603	0	4½

NEVIS.

The import duties were recently reduced and assimilated to those of St. Kitts, but too short a time has elapsed to test the result. The increase on receipts is due principally to larger imports of wood stuffs, to meet the requirements of the crop. I attach to this report the quantities of the chief articles imported in 1881 and 1882, with the old and new duties.

The marked increase in the export duties is due to the fact that not only the immigration tax was added to the export duty, but further augmentation was made, so that the duty was raised from 4*s.* to 8*s.* 6*d.* per hogshead, and other produce in proportion.

Tonnage dues, rum and liquor licenses, came in for their share in the advantages of a good crop, and increased circulation of money. The rat tax was an additional 1*s.* per hogshead on sugar.

The land tax of 1*s.* 2*d.* on cultivated and 4*d.* on uncultivated land, was remitted for one year.

The horse and carriage tax was reduced to a moiety.

The rat land tax was also remitted for one year. The boat tax was repealed, and magisterial convictions were considerably less than in 1881.

The Expenditure

Was 8,465*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.*, showing but a small decrease of 35*l.* 2*s.* 1*d.*, this difference arising thus :—

Decrease.	£	*s.*	*d.*
Treasury -	79	12	6
Marshal -	66	19	2
Hospitals -	73	18	2
Roads - -	275	3	8½
Census - -	144	6	11½
Arrears 1881 -	277	10	10
Other sources	131	18	8
	1,049	10	0

Increase.	£	*s.*	*d.*
Medical relief -	176	18	8
Purchase, &c. "Nooya" -	626	3	5
Administration of justice -	50	14	1
Conveyance of mails - -	36	0	10
Immigration expenses -	31	3	3
Police - -	27	6	4
Post office -	26	1	0
Other sources -	39	0	4
Balance - -	35	2	1
	1,049	10	0

The decreased expenditure was caused by vacant offices, and undrawn pay, greater economy, and the exceptional expenditure for the Census in 1881; and the increase, by employment and passage money of an additional medical officer, the purchase of a Colonial steamer, the reward paid in capturing a man charged with manslaughter, the loss on the postal union, and increase in minor heads of service.

The union of the Island with St. Christopher will enable the Government materially to reduce taxation and expenditure in 1883.

General.

No better time could have been selected for the union of the Island with St. Christopher. Nevis is not only not in debt, but she brings with her some 3,000*l.*, 1,229*l.* 13*s.* 2*d.* being a current balance, and 1,831*l.* 1*s.* 3½*d.* being the amount of the Immigration Fund, which is at interest in the Colonial bank. The crop was very good, being some 5,000 hogsheads against 2,274 of the previous year.

Crime marks a considerable diminution in many phases; one serious case of manslaughter occurred during the year. Apprehensions had decreased from 951 to 670. It is to be regretted that with a large crop and ready employment to be found that prædial larceny, and other offences against property, should have materially increased.

The health of the Island has been pretty good. The births were 162 in excess of the deaths, and marriages, a fair index of prosperity, increased from 77 in 1881 to 145 in 1882.

Memorandum of Principal Imports, 1881 *and* 1882.

Articles.	Old duty.	Quantity.	New duty.	Quantity.
Bread - - -	3*s.* brl.	157 brls.	1½*d.* brls.	340 brls.
Beef, salted - -	1*d.* lb.	9,807 lbs.	½*d.* lb.	10,100 lbs.
Butter - - -	1*d.* lb.	17,456 lbs.	1*d.* lb.	22,247 lbs.
Brandy - - -	6*s.* 3*d.* gal.	430 gals.	4*s.* gal.	719 gals.
Cheese - - -	1*d.* lb.	3,769 lbs.	1*d.* lb.	6,695 lbs.
Cigars - - -	25% val.	val. 2*l.* 15*s.* 1*d.*	20% val.	val. 15*l.* 10*s.* 5*d.*
Coffee and Cocoa - -	8*s.* 4*d.* 100 lbs.	2,109 lbs.	5*s.* 100	3,709 lbs.
Corn Meal - - -	2*s.* 6*d.* brl.	3,524 brls.	2*s.* 1*d.* brl.	3,028 brls.
Fish, pickled - -	3*s.* brl.	691 brls.	2*s.* 1*d.* brl.	623 brls.
„ dry - - -	1*s.* 6*d.* qth.	984 qths.	1*s.* 0½*d.* 100	108,550 lbs.
Flour - - -	5*s.* brl.	4,883 brls.	4*s.* 2*d.* brl.	4,780 brls.
Gin - - -	3*s.* gal.	1,389 gals.	1*s.* gal.	2,035 gals.
Lumber, W.P. - -	8*s.* 4*d.*	226,579 ft.	8*s.* 4*d.*	398,057 ft.
„ P.P. - -	12*s.* 6*d.*	10,661 ft.	12*s.* 6*d.*	64,946 ft.
Pork - - -	1*d.* lb.	46,940 lbs.	½*d.* lb.	51,700 lbs.
Rum - - -	6*s.* 3*d.* gal.	411 gals.	1*s.* gal.	3,126 gals.
Rice - - -	1*s.* 6*d.* 100 lbs.	119,767 lbs.	1*s.* 0½*d.* lb.	213,850 lbs.
Cedar and pine shingles -	2*s.* 6*d.*	278,000	2*s.* 1*d.*	438,550
Shooks - - -	6*d.*	610	4*d.*	6,639
Tobacco, unmanufactured -	20*l.* 10*s.* 100 lbs.	9,371	20*s.*	10,014
Wood hoops - -	6*s.*	37,340	8*s.* 4*d.*	97,954
Cottons and Muslins -	12½ %.	val. 4,797*l.*	8 %.	val. 9,117*l.*
Haberdashery - -	12½ %.	val. 1,242*l.*	8 %.	val. 3,002*l.*
Wine - - -	20 %.	val. 152*l.*	15 %.	val. 249*l.*

I have, &c.

The Honourable
The Acting Colonial Secretary
of the Leeward Islands.

(Signed) C. M. ELDRIDGE,
Acting President.

VIRGIN ISLANDS.

VIRGIN ISLANDS.

No. 12.

Governor SIR J. H. GLOVER, G.C.M.G., to the Right Hon. the EARL OF DERBY.

Government House, Antigua,
June 7, 1883.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship the Blue Book of the Virgin Islands for the year 1882, with the Acting President's report thereon.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon.
The Earl of Derby,
&c. &c.

(Signed) JOHN H. GLOVER,
Governor.

REPORT to accompany the VIRGIN ISLANDS' BLUE BOOK for the year 1882.

Revenue.

		£	*s.*	*d.*
1881	- - -	1,604	5	0
1882	- -	1,642	18	8

The returns show an increase of 38*l.* 13*s.* 8*d.* in the Revenue of last year, over that of 1881. This is to be chiefly attributed to an increase in the duties received on Imports, which exceeded the income derived from that source in 1881 by 67*l.* 9*s.* 3*d.* The total excess in the Revenue derived from Customs' duties, namely, imports, exports, and tonnage, was 68*l.* 7*s.* 8*d.*

Expenditure.

		£	*s.*	*d.*
1881	- - -	1,735	14	0
1882	- - -	1,613	16	9

2. Although it would appear that there was a decrease of 121*l.* 17*s.* 3*d.* in the expenditure, as compared with that of 1881, it must be borne in mind that the greater expenditure of the former year is attributable chiefly to the expense of taking the

census, to the payment to the late owners of the surplus arising from the sale of Government lands, which had been acquired by the non-payment of taxes, and to the imposition of quarantine, items which do not appear in the accounts for 1882.

Legislation.

3. Three Ordinances only were passed during the year, the object of each of which was to confer certain powers of legislation on the Federal Legislature, which, otherwise, could only have been dealt with by the Island Council.

4. An Ordinance passed in 1881, relieving the President of the duties of Treasurer, which he previously performed, ex officio, and providing for the appointment of a Treasurer as a separate officer, was assented to by his Excellency the Governor, and came into operation on the 1st October.

General.

5. I regret that I am unable to report any material improvement in the condition of the Presidency. When certain reforms which are much needed are effected, such as a re-adjustment of the direct taxation, and provision for its more easy collection, together with amendments in the laws under which the Import and Exports duties are levied, I venture to hope that, without any increase whatever of the burthens of the people, a better state of things than has hitherto existed, may be looked for.

6. The general state of the Presidency, and of its finances and resources in particular, having so very recently been fully investigated by the Commissioners appointed by Her Majesty for the purpose, I abstain, on this occasion, from making any further observations, being fully satisfied that the subject will, at their hands, be ably and satisfactorily dealt with.

I have, &c.
(Signed) R. H. DYETT,
Acting President.

Tortola,
April 18, 1883.

DOMINICA.

DOMINICA.

No. 13.

Administrator PORTER to the Right Hon. the EARL OF DERBY.

Government House, Antigua,
June 23, 1883.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship the Blue Book of the Presidency of Dominica for the year 1882, with the Acting President's report thereon.

I have, &c.
(Signed) NEALE PORTER,
Administrator.

The Right Hon.
The Earl of Derby,
&c. &c.

REPORT on the BLUE BOOK of 1882.

Taxes, Duties, &c.

There was collected in 1882 an additional tax of 10 per cent. on the several items of revenue, except receipts for stamp tax, road tax, and water rates.

The Act No. 9 of 1881 under which the tax was collected was limited to two years' duration, to expire on the 31st December 1883, but by a special Act passed for the purpose it has been repealed from and after the 30th June 1883.

During the last quarter of the year wharfage dues were collected under the authority of Act No. 6 of 1882.

No other changes in the financial system were brought into operation during the year.

Revenue and Expenditure.

	£	s.	d.
Total revenue for 1881 - -	24,023	0	11
Total revenue for 1882 - -	20,283	13	1¾

Extraordinary receipts for each year were as follows:

	£
In 1881, loan - - - -	5,000
In 1882, 10 per cent. additional tax -	1,372
In 1882, sale of garden lot - -	250
In 1882, wharfage dues under new Act -	68
Making a total of - - -	1,690

Subtracting from the total revenue the amount of 5,000*l.* and 1,690*l.* respectively, and omitting fractions, it appears that the ordinary revenue collected for each year was :—

	£
For 1881 - - - -	19,023
For 1882 - - - -	18,593

a decrease in 1882 of 430*l.*

The total receipts under the head of "Customs" were lower than in 1881 as shown in the following table :—

Table of Customs receipts in 1881 *and* 1882 *showing Increase or Decrease in latter year.*

Customs.	1881.	1882.	Increase.	Decrease.	—
	£	£	£	£	
Import - -	7,966	7,550	—	415	
Export - -	1,245	1,284	39	—	Total
Excise - -	2,674	2,517	—	156	decrease
Tonnage and Harbour duty - -	508	614	106	—	426*l.*
Total - -	12,393	11,965	145	571	

The produce of the Yaws tax, which is a 10 per cent. tax on all duties, declined from 1,573*l.* in 1881 to 1,373 in 1882, a decrease of 200*l.* in the latter year.

Amounts received on account of licenses fell off generally, although not to a very great extent during the year 1882, as may be seen from the subjoined table :—

Table showing amounts received for Licenses in 1881 *and* 1882, *with decrease in* 1882.

Licenses.	1881.	1882.	Increase.	Decrease.	
	£	£	£	£	
Liquor - -	585	438	—	147	
Trade - -	474	376	—	98	Total
Boat - - -	173	166	—	7	decrease
Porters - -	20	18	—	2	254*l.*
Total - -	1,252	998	—	254	

There was a decrease of 216*l.* in the amount of fines and penalties paid into the Treasury in 1882 as compared with those of the preceding year, the respective sums being—

	£
For 1881 - - - -	665
For 1882 - - - -	448

DOMINICA.

The road tax, which is a money composition in lieu of statute labour, produced 1,302*l.* in 1881 and 1,844*l.* in 1882, an increase for the latter year of 542*l.*

It must be expected that receipts from this tax will fall off largely henceforth as by the new Road Act women are exempted from liability to statute labour.

It will be seen from the foregoing comparisons that there has been very little fluctuation in the revenue during the past two years, and as the whole system of taxation is undergoing revision, it is unnecessary to enter more deeply into the review of this portion of the Blue Book.

Expenditure.

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Total for 1881 - - -	21,468	12	8¾
Total for 1882 - - -	19,406	0	1

The regular expenditure for 1882 amounted to 18,769*l.* 9*s.* 10¾*d.*, which however includes the first cost of the purchase of the colonial steam vessel "Nooya," 562*l.* 10*s.*, which is not a recurring item.

There was a considerable reduction effected in the expenditure upon hospitals and poor house by the closing of the Canefield Yaws hospital and the exercise of a stricter supervision over the admissions to the poor house.

The cost of the charitable institutions was—

	£
In 1881 - - - -	3,959
In 1882 - - - -	2,229

but arrears under this head were paid in 1883 amounting to 200*l.*, making the actual cost for 1882 2,429*l.*, a difference of 1,528*l.* as compared with the cost in 1881.

The cost of education in 1882 was 227*l.* less than in 1881 on account of grants in aid being strictly withheld from all schools not entitled to receive them, the expenditure having been—

	£
In 1881 - - - -	951
In 1882 - - - -	724

Expenditure on the roads was brought down to 1,485*l.*, a saving of 327*l.* as compared with the expenditure of the previous year, which amounted to 1,812*l.*

This does not represent a real economy, however necessary it may have been under the financial circumstances of the time, as the roads in some quarters are rapidly approaching such a state as must either lead to their abandonment for horse traffic or to the raising of a large sum of money for immediate repairs on an extensive scale.

The repairs to the streets of Roseau, which were considered by the Government to be urgently needed as long ago as the year

1877, cannot be postponed much longer on account of want of funds.

Further taxation to meet the necessity will have to be imposed.

This matter has become more urgent since the introduction of an unlimited water supply into the town of Roseau.

There is no system of sewerage, and water is now constantly flowing along the open gutters down the centre of all the streets.

These gutters are broken up, and where the gradient is very slight they cannot carry off the water, which, contaminated with dirty water from the houses, sinks into the earth below the pavement or remains stagnating in pools until it becomes positively offensive.

Legislation.

Six Acts passed by the Legislative Assembly during the year 1882 were confirmed:—

No. 1. To enable the General Legislature to provide for the purchase and maintenance of a steam vessel.

No. 2. Amending Porter's and Jobber's Act.

No. 3. Authorising the General Legislature to pass laws regulating apprenticeship.

No. 4. Road Act.

No. 5. To prevent adulteration of milk.

No. 6. To provide for the erection and maintenance of piers and wharves.

The principal changes effected by the Road Act of 1882 are the exemption of women from payment of the statute labour tax and the distribution of the area of the island into thirteen districts, to each of which a road board is appointed with the duty of inspecting the roads periodically and reporting to the Governor.

By the Act No. 6 of 1882 small wharfage dues are authorised to be collected upon certain articles of merchandise named in the schedule to the Act, and to be set apart as a special fund to meet expenses connected with the piers, wharves, and roadstead of the town of Roseau.

This Act has been some months in operation with good results.

It is estimated that about 250*l.* will be collected annually, a sum sufficient, in the future to answer the purposes set forth in the Act without having recourse to the general revenue.

Population and Vital Statistics.

The Registrar-General in his report returns the number of births during the year 1882 at 676, or 23·8 per thousand of the population.

351 births or 51·9 per cent. of the whole were illegitimate.

There were 480 deaths registered in 1882 or 16·9 per thousand of the population.

Of these deaths 85 were of infants and 116 were of children under 7 years.

DOMINICA.

The following table taken from the Registrar-General's report shows the number of births and deaths in each parish for the years 1881 and 1882.

I have excluded altogether the returns of marriages, which are so insufficient as to be worthless for any purposes of statistical information.

In the returns of births and deaths, the numbers given can only be considered as an approximation to the real numbers, which are never likely to be ascertained until every parish has its own registrar or person deputed by the Registrar-General to receive notices of births and deaths and keep the books.

At present there are only three registration districts which are the same as the magisterial districts, the magistrates being registrars.

It is true that the Act No. 6 of 1874 directs that a register of births, deaths, and marriages shall be kept in each parish, but no provision is made for the payment of persons to keep the books.

It would not be difficult to find competent persons to act as registrars in the parishes if a fee were allowed to be paid from the public treasury of 1*s.* for each entry as is done in other Colonies.

Comparative Summary of Births for the years and 1882.

—	Births.				Deaths.			
	1881.	1882.	Increase.	Decrease.	1881.	1882.	Increase.	Decrease.
Town of Roseau -	159	136	1	—	173	128	—	3
St. George - -		24		—		42	—	
St. Paul - -	58	28	—	30	27	23	—	4
St. Joseph - -	57	69	12	—	27	29	2	—
St. Peter - -	24	41	17	—	37	34	—	3
St. John - -	87	63	—	24	68	44	—	24
St. Andrew - -	147	118	—	29	85	78	—	7
St. David - -	36	37	1	—	27	17	—	10
St. Patrick - -	122	122	—	—	46	62	16	—
St. Mark - -	52	31	—	21	20	22	2	—
St. Luke - -	28	7	—	21	11	1	—	10
	770	676	31	125	521	480	20	61
	Increase, 1882, 94.				Decrease, 1882, 41.			

Imports and Exports.

—	Imports.	Exports.
Total value of imports and exports in 1882 -	£ 72,327	£ 65,452

—	Imports.	Exports.
Total value of imports and exports in 1881 -	£ 64,968	£ 55,162

A comparison of the returns of imports for 1881 and 1882 shows an increased value in 1882 of 7,359*l.* on articles imported and of 10,290*l.* on colonial produce exported, but 4,155*l.* in value of the total exports of 1882 are to be accounted for by the re-exportation of foreign and British manufactures to Martinique and Guadaloupe, so that the real increment in value of exports for the year is reduced 6,135*l.*

Imports were chiefly derived from the United Kingdom and Barbados.

The value of goods imported direct from the United Kingdom was —

	£
In 1881 - - -	25,687
„ 1882 - - -	33,689

An increase of 8,002*l.* in value in 1882.

Direct importation from the United States has declined to little over 6,000*l.* in value, but of the comparatively large import from Barbados, amounting in value to 22,056*l.* for 1882, a large proportion are the produce and manufactures of America as well as those of the United Kingdom.

The value of goods from the French islands openly imported and paying duty amounted in 1882 to 6,669*l.*

Although the imports for the year were larger on the whole or of greater value than those of the preceding year, bread stuffs and all of the coarser kinds of food in use by the labouring classes were imported in smaller quantities; there being a falling off to the value of 2,272*l.* in imports of this class, as may be seen by the subjoined table, giving a list of certain articles of food with the amount of the imports in each kind for 1881 and 1882 respectively, calculated according to value only.

Table showing value of flour and some other food stuffs imported in 1881 and 1882 :—

Articles imported.	Value in 1882.	Value in 1881.	Whence imported.
	£	£	
Flour - - -	7,932	8,817	Barbados and United States.
Bread and biscuit -	156	188	Barbados and United States.
Beef and Pork - -	1,378	1,629	Barbados and United States.
Dried fish - -	4,322	4,842	Barbados chiefly.
Butter - - -	1,452	1,817	Martinique and Barbados.
Lard - - -	737	757	Barbados and United States.
Rice - - -	445	814	Barbados and United Kingdom.
Olive oil - - -	1,904	1,741	Martinique and Guadaloupe.
Total - -	18,326	20,598	

DOMINICA.

Wines and liqueurs to the value of 1,215*l.* 17*s.* 10*d.*, and 10,927 gallons of brandy and other spirituous and malt liquors were entered for home consumption during the year, paying a duty of 615*l.* 15*s.* 4*d.*, as shown by the following tabular statement.

Table showing quantity of liqueurs imported in 1882 and duty received :—

Liquors.	Quantity expressed by Measure or Value in Sterling.	Rate of Duty.	Amount of Duty received.
	£ *s.* *d.*		£ *s.* *d.*
Wines - -	1,145 5 11	10 per cent. ad val.	229 0 10
Liqueurs - -	70 11 11	10 per cent. ad val.	7 1 7
Brandy - -	286⅔ galls.	4*s.* per gallon	59 6 8
Gin - - -	2,133 „	4*s.* per gallon	213 6 0
Rum and whiskey	245¾ „	3*s.* per gallon	36 17 3
Ale, &c. - -	8,263 „	5*d.* per gallon	172 3 0

Tobacco in the leaf was imported to the amount of 126,420 lbs. weight, of which only 33,960½ lbs. was entered for home consumption, paying duty at 25*s.* per 100 lbs., 424*l.* 11*s.* 11*d.*

Manufactured tobacco, three fourths of which came from France and Martinique, was imported to the value of 485*l.* 9*s.* 4*d.*, of which 103*l.* 10*s.* was entered for home consumption, and paid duty at 20 per cent ad valorem, 20*l.* 13*s.* 10*d.*

Exports.

—	1881.	1882.
	£	£
Total value of exports - - -	55,162	65,452

There was an increase in the total value of the exports for 1882, as compared with those of 1881, 10,299*l.*, but 4,149*l.* of this sum is to be accounted for by the exportation of foreign produce and manufactures, including tobacco, flour, gin, kerosene, cottons and matches, chiefly to the French islands, so that the real increase in the value of colonial produce exported during the year is only 6,141*l.*

Of sugar, which is now the staple produce of the island, the crop was valued for exportation at 41,577*l.*, being one fourth greater than the crop of the preceding year.

It was shipped almost entirely to the United Kingdom, except a proportion to the value of 3,658*l.*, which went to the United States.

The following is a return of the quantities shipped :—

2,373 hogsheads, 40″ - tierces 174.
277 „ 36″ - casks 202.
208 „ 32″ - barrels 3,666.

The export of raw lime juice has almost ceased, but a larger quantity of the concentrated juice was exported in 1882, although the value has declined.

The crop of cocoa was scarcely more than half that of 1881.

There was a considerable increase in the export of coffee in 1882, the bulk of this crop being sold to the West India islands and about one twelfth to the United States.

In 1881 three fourths of the crop was shipped to the United Kingdom.

The small export trade with the United States in fruit and bay leaves shows signs of increasing, and may eventually become of some importance to this Colony.

Comparative table showing the quantities and value of some Colonial products exported in 1881 and 1882 :—

—	1881.		1882.		Countries to which exported.
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	
		£		£	
Sugar -	31,262*l.*	—	41,577*l.*	—	United Kingdom.
Molasses - -	61,150 gals.	1,528	86,918 gals.	2,897	Martinique.
Lime juice - -	21,287 „	6,386	24,389 „	5,081	United States.
Lime oil - -	357 „	160	281 „	168	United Kingdom.
Cocoa - -	757,866 lbs.	12,623	382,490 lbs.	6,374	Two thirds to United Kingdom.
Coffee - -	8,113 „	167	12,843 „	321	West Indies and United States.
Fruit - -	128*l.*	—	607*l.*	—	United States.
Bay leaves - -	581 bales	—	1,510 bales	—	„ „
Bay oil - -	—	—	31½ gals.	126	St. Thomas and St. Croix.

Gaols and Criminal Statistics.

The total number of persons committed to gaol in 1882 was 229, of which six were committed for debt, 22 for safe custody, and the remaining 201 for purposes of penal imprisonment.

Of the whole number of committals 110, or more than half, were of persons who had been previously convicted.

Of this class of offenders—

25 had been previously convicted once,
39 „ „ „ twice,
46 „ „ „ three or more times.

There were no deaths in the prison, but there were 92 admissions to hospitals, and the daily average on the sick list was high, being two out of a daily average of 22 in prison.

DOMINICA.

Only 37 cases, however, were thought serious enough to be entered by the Medical Officer of the gaol in his tabular statement of prevailing diseases, which is given below:—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Diarrhœa - - - -	7	7	14
Intermittent fever - - -	10	—	10
Venereal disease - - -	5	1	6
Yaws - - - - -	2	2	4
Hernia - - - - -	3	—	3
Total - - -	27	10	37

In the magistrates' courts convictions have much diminished during the past two years, but not those in the superior courts, as may be seen on reference to the following tables:—

Comparative Table showing the Number of Summary Convictions for the last four Years.

Description of Offences.	1879.	1880.	1881.	1882.
Offences against the person -	439	358	105	161
Prædial larceny - -	75	105	88	35
Offences against property other than prædial larceny - -	198	166	152	115
Other offences, including offences under master and servant -	524	429	360	458
Total of summary convictions	1,236	1,058	705	769

Comparative Table showing the Number of Convictions in the Superior Courts for the last four Years.

Description of Offences.	1879.	1880.	1881.	1882.
Offences against the person -	4	6	2	6
Prædial larceny - - -	1	—	3	—
Offences against property other than prædial larceny - -	9	5	11	17
Other offences - - -	1	1	3	3
Total of convictions in the superior courts -	15	12	19	26

General Remarks

The backward condition of Dominica in all that relates to agricultural wealth and prosperity is the more to be regretted, if it is true, as many think, that it possesses capabilities in soil and climatic conditions fitting it to take an unrivalled position amongst the islands of the lesser Antilles, by the number and variety as well as by the gross value of its products.

There are not wanting some marked signs of increasing activity in trade and industry, but almost all the resources of the island available for agriculture are devoted to the growth and manufacture of sugar, leaving undeveloped all those portions of land which, although unsuited for the sugar-cane, are said to be eminently so for the growth of the coffee and the cacao tree.

Thus, although the Liberian coffee has been successfully introduced, and has been found to resist the blight, which was the partial cause of the abandonment of the old coffee plantations, the cultivation of it has never spread in Dominica beyond the estate of St. Aromant near Roseau, where it was first introduced.

It seems that planters in other Colonies have been quicker to seize upon the commercial value of the essay in Liberian coffee planting made at St. Aromant, as I gather from an interesting account of a visit paid by Sir Henry Irving to some coffee and cocoa plantations near Demerara, where mention is made of 12,000 Liberian coffee trees in splendid condition and full bearing, which the writer believes to have been grown from seeds or seedlings off the same St. Aromant estate in Dominica.

At present there is no evidence of any interest being generally felt in the advancement of agriculture, apart from the accustomed routine of sugar planting.

Even this well established industry is now retarded in some districts of Dominica by the want of labour at the proper seasons, and the crop is endangered by the length of time during which the crop season is kept dragging on.

This already sparsely populated island is constantly undergoing depletion of its best labouring men by emigration to the French Islands, to Trinidad, and to Venezuela, so that whatever is done here in the future, if it be on a scale above the very smallest, must be done by the aid of Coolie immigration; that aid which has been invoked with splendid success to found, or to restore, the commercial greatness of Trinidad and Guiana, and which apparently can alone avert the decay which threatens first to paralyse and finally to destroy the only industry of Dominica.

The possession by the Crown of much good land offers some peculiar advantages here in respect of immigration which do not exist in such Colonies as St. Kitts and Antigua, inasmuch as many immigrants on the termination of their five years' indentures would probably choose to establish themselves in this Colony, where they would take root and form thriving settlements.

DOMINICA.

Peasant proprietorship is, no doubt, rather to be deprecated than encouraged in the case of the negroes, who are apt in that state to lapse into barbarous idleness, but it is quite otherwise with the Indians, who are not satisfied with providing for the simple wants of animal life, but are wont to continue always making some further effort to improve their social condition.

There have been negotiations in progress on the part of some gentlemen of Martinique for the purchase of estates in Dominica, with a view to establish usines similar to those at Martinique, one near Roseau, and another in the Lasoye district.

The usines at Martinique have proved to be an excellent investment for capital, there being already 13 in full employment, and more projected.

It is also probable that they afford a powerful stimulus to the increase of sugar cultivation in the islands where they are established by the facilities offered the small growers for the disposal of their canes.

There is, however, an initial difficulty which it may not be easy for the projectors to meet and overcome.

It is a *sine quâ non* (as I have been informed by these gentlemen) before any further steps can be taken towards the establishment of usines that the neighbouring proprietors should contract to sell their canes to the usine, but as all the large proprietors are themselves manufacturers, and possessed of an expensive plant in machinery, boiling houses, &c., it is likely that they will be reluctant to resign the manufacturing business into other hands unless they see clearly that some direct and immediate profit is to be gained.

If the advantages offered are only doubtful and prospective, the argument that usines are beneficial to the country at large will not, I fear, be sufficiently urgent to weigh against the force of old customs, and induce the estates owners to adopt a system which, in Dominica, is new and untried.

Should these schemes ever come to maturity the Government will undoubtedly be asked to sanction immigration, as without an asurred supply of labour any attempt to carry them out would be merely to court failure.

(Signed) J. SPENCER CHURCHILL,
Acting President.

JAMAICA.

No. 14.

Governor Sir A. MUSGRAVE, K.C.M.G., to the Right Hon. the EARL OF DERBY.

MY LORD, King's House, April 17, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to forward to your Lordship the accompanying report on the Blue Book of Jamaica for the financial year 1881–82.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. MUSGRAVE.

The Right Hon.
The Earl of Derby,
&c. &c.

BLUE BOOK REPORT, 1882.

Legislation.

In the Session of 1881–82 thirty Laws were passed by the Legislature, of which the following are the more important —

Law 26 of 1881.—"A Law to grant temporary aid to the revenue.'

This Law, which imposed for one year from the 21st November, 1881, an additional duty of 3*s.* per gallon on rum used for island consumption and an additional 10 per cent. on the import duties, was passed in order to meet a deficiency in the revenue caused by the protracted drought which succeeded the cyclone of the year 1880, and by the large annual debt charges assumed since 1877, on account of the old immigration loans. Assistance was also necessary to enable the revenue of the succeeding year to meet the usual expenditure.

Law 32 of 1881.—"The Jury Law Amendment Law, 1881."

Abolishes juries de mediatate lingua and removes what had been found to be an inconvenient restriction in the compiling of the special jury lists.

Law 33 of 1881.—"The Dower Law, 1881."

This Law was passed to simplify the Law of Dower in this Colony and to assimilate it to that established in England.

Law 34 of 1881.—"The Reformatories and Industrial schools Law, 1881."

This Law was passed in consequence of recommendations of the Commission appointed to inquire into the condition of the juvenile population. The chief value of the measure consists in the consolidation of the Laws relating to reformatories and

JAMAICA.

industrial schools, and in the provision of rendering parents of sufficient ability liable for the maintenance of any child in any reformatory or industrial school.

Law 35 of 1881.—"The Rum Duty Law Amendmen Law, 1881."

This Law amends the Rum Duty Law, 10 of 1878, in various respects in which in practice it had been found defective.

The revival of the provision contained in sections 21 and 22, throwing on the person found in possession of rum the burden of proof that he had obtained it lawfully, was found to have been rendered necessary by the great facilities which exist for pilfering rum from the numerous estates, stills, and warehouses, and the impossibility of identifying the spirit as property stolen from any particular estate. In practice the difficulty thus arising has defeated the attempts of the constabulary to get convictions, while the present Law has the safeguard of requiring the possession to be surrounded "by circumstances which justify a reasonable "suspicion" of illegality (sec. 21).

Law 36 of 1881.—"The Kingston Police Law."

This Law is to some extent a consolidation Law, and provides for the police of Kingston and for the regulation of its traffic. Opportunity was at the same time taken to make a provision for putting a stop to what had become a public nuisance, namely, the accumulation of dogs without owners.

Law 3 of 1882.—"The Customs Consolidation Law Amendment Law, 1882."

The object of this Law is to remove any doubt as to the power of the Governor to prohibit the exportation in any way of warlike stores; and the opportunity has been taken to consolidate the former Laws on the point.

Law 4 of 1882.—"The Criminal Code, 1879, Amendment Law, 1882."

This Law modifies the principal Law in certain points in regard to punishment by flogging.

Law 7 of 1882.—"The Common Lodging House Law, 1882."

This Law was passed on the recommendation of the Commissioners appointed to inquire into the condition of the juvenile population of Jamacia. Considerable prominence had been given in the Commissioners' report to the evils arising from the manner in which country people attending the Kingston market, from the different out-lying districts, were herded together at night. A great many of the places at which they slept were ascertained to be overcrowded and the sanitary arrangements in most of them were bad, and it had been thought expedient to place these houses at once under legislative restrictions as set forth in section 4, the provisions of which apply only when a house or rooms have been declared a common lodging house and registered as such under section 25 of Law 6 of 1867.

So far as applicable the provisions in this Law have been taken from the Imperial Act (38 & 39 Vict. c. 55. secs. 71 to 90).

Law 14 of 1882.—"The Rectors' Fund and Curates' Fund Law, 1882."

By this Law the Public Revenue guarantees the solvency of the Rectors' Fund in consideration of the relinquishment by the Trustees of that fund of certain contributions due from the revenue to the fund. The Law also makes provision for the disposal of any surplus balances of the Rectors' and of the Curates' Funds which may remain after the objects of those funds shall have been satisfied.

Law 15 of 1882.—"A Law to exempt certain houses from the tax on houses for the support of the poor."

The object of this Law is to encourage planters to provide on their estates some sort of accommodation for persons working thereon, by exempting houses provided for that purpose from the inhabited house duty.

Law 18 of 1882—"The Prisons Law, 1882."

This is mainly a consolidation of the Laws repealed by the Schedule, the provisions of which have in some respects been modified or added to to suit altered circumstances.

Law 19 of 1882.—"The Railway Extension Loan Laws, 1880, Amendment Law, 1882."

This Law was passed for the purpose of specifically vesting in the Director of Public Works the power, intended to have been given by Law 8 of 1880, of acquiring land for the purpose of supplying water for use on the new lines of railway in course of construction.

Finance.

The year under report commenced with a deficit of 44,395*l.* brought forward from the year before, which added to the expenditure proper of the year (451,078*l.* and sinking funds, 14,853*l.*) gave a total amount of 510,326*l.*, while the receipts, including the unusual items of 9,099*l.* for the surplus fund of the Government Savings Bank, transferred to general revenue, and of 16,357*l.* for the sinking funds of 26 Vict. c. 20, Law 47 of 1869, and Law 1 of 1878, set free by the operation of Law 19 of 1880, amounted only to 492,152*l.*, thus closing the year with a deficit of 18,174*l.*

It will thus be seen that during the year the deficit was reduced by the amount of 26,221*l.*

The appropriated revenues which are devoted to parochial roads, pauper relief, sanitary and other similar local services, and are administered by the several parochial boards, produced in 1881–82 90,440*l.* which is 5,451*l.* more than the receipts of the year before. The expenditure on the other hand amounted to 82,631*l.*, the balance in each case being carried forward to the credit of the particular fund concerned.

The revenue appropriated to immigration services amounted to 20,245*l.* and the expenditure to 24,522*l.*, the difference being met from the balance in hand.

JAMAICA.

The usual comparative table of the whole of the Treasury receipts in the financial year under report with those of the previous year is given below :—

	1881–82.	1880–81.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
General Revenue.				
Import duties	244,957	253,932	—	8,975
Export duties	4,547	6,061	—	1,514
Light dues	1,736	1,907	—	171
Harbour master's fees	477	438	39	—
Rum duties	91,001	81,540	9,461	
Licenses	14,770	16,981	—	2,211
Stamps	15,066	13,313	1,753	
Postal revenues	14,572	14,426	146	—
Telegraphs	3,309	2,594	715	—
Tax on stock	5,062	4,937	125	—
Court fees	7,309	7,650	—	341
Fines and forfeitures	2,546	2,369	177	—
Interest on securities for sinking funds	5,805	5,313	492	—
Interest other than as above	2,023	1,488	535	—
Jamaica railway revenue	26,034	22,137	3,897	—
Reimbursements for expenditure	18,273	18,068	205	—
Miscellaneous	9,209	6,313	2,896	—
	466,696	459,467	20,441	13,212
	—	—	7,229	—
Revenue specially appropriated.				
Parochial road revenues	41,047	38,173	2,874	—
Kingston street tax	1,288	1,554	—	266
Parochial municipal objects	7,476	6,922	554	—
Poor rates	32,364	28,688	3,676	—
Sanitary rates	3,730	3,737	—	7
Fire rates	1,285	1,512	—	227
Gas rates	2,251	3,373	—	1,122
Miscellaneous	999	1,030	—	31
	90,440	84,989	7,104	1,653
	—	—	5,451	—

	1881–82.	1880–81.	Increase.	Decrease.
Immigration Revenues.	£	£	£	£
Export duties - - -	16,105	9,183	6,922	—
Capitation tax - - -	513	1,585	—	1,072
Interest (general) - -	1,048	1,297	—	249
Proceeds of planters' notes -	2,470	6,440	—	3,970
Miscellaneous - - -	109	266	—	160
	20,245	18,774	6,922	5,451
	—	—	1,471	—
Total General Revenues.				
Total general revenue -	466,696	459,467	7,229	—
Total revenue specially appropriated - - -	90,440	84,989*	5,451	—
Total immigration revenues -	20,245	18,774	1,471	—
	577,381	563,230	14,151	—
Receipts on Debt Account.				
Law 12 of 1879 - - -	—	25,000	—	25,000
Law 1 of 1879 - - -	—	547	—	547
Law 19 of 1880 - - -	359,100	—	359,100	—
Law 17 of 1880 - - -	200,000	200,000	—	—
Excess of deposits over withdrawals	5,072	—	5,072	—
	1,141,553	788,777	378,323	25,547
	—	—	352,776	—

The yield of the general revenue was 6,729*l.* in excess of that of the year before, in spite of the decreases in 1881–82 under import and export duties and licenses. The falling off on these items was doubtless due to the depressed condition of trade generally in consequence of the cyclone and protracted droughts. The same cause also effected the rum duties which, though in excess of those of the year before, were still considerably under the average of previous years. The other items hardly call for any special remark, except that the recovery of the railway revenue from the unusually low receipts of the year before is very satisfactory.

The increase under appropriated revenues is peculiarly gratifying, as there has been no change in the incidents of the taxation, and the increase, which has now been regular for some years, must represent an actual increase of wealth or comfort amongst the people in more and better houses and in more horses and carts.

The immigration revenues show a small increase over the preceding year, which is due to the large receipts under export duties, caused by the unusually good sugar crop which has been the best, certainly for 31 years and, probably, for 40 if allowance is made for size of packages. The capitation tax is, of

JAMAICA.

course, gradually falling with the expiration of the indentures of those coolies introduced prior to 1877.

The following is a similar comparative statement of the Treasury disbursements compared with the year immediately preceding:—

	1881–82.	1880–81.	Increase.	Decrease.
General Expenditure.	£	£	£	£
Charges of debt	45,831	45,416	415	—
Pensions	13,765	13,373	392	—
Administrative departments	31,799	31,038	761	—
Revenue departments	31,867	31,481	386	—
Postal service	16,639	16,942	—	303
Telegraphs	3,269	3,352	—	83
Judicial	37,356	38,054	—	698
Ecclesiastical	7,677	8,122	—	445
Special grant	2,600	—	2,600	—
Medical	51,457	48,560	2,897	—
Constabulary	49,399	51,178	—	1,779
Penitentiary and prisons	25,304	26,736	—	1,432
Reformatory	4,566	4,392	174	—
Education	22,865	25,716	—	2,851
Harbour masters	950	979	—	29
Colonial allowances to troops	4,286	3,931	355	—
Pilotage and harbours	476	223	253	—
Steam communication with America	3,906	4,029	—	123
Steam communication round the Island	1,656	1,154	502	—
Subsidy to West India and Panama Telegraph Company	2,000	2,000	—	—
Civil Service Commission	—	310	—	310
Census, 1881	127	6,033	—	5,906
Registrar-General's Department	2,852	2,995	—	143
Island Record Office	923	886	37	—
Printing and stationery establishment	8,003	7,916	87	—
Institute of Jamaica	972	879	93	—
Public plantations and gardens	5,281	5,456	—	175
Jamaica Railway	12,776	12,491	285	—
Miscellaneous	7,727	7,772	—	45
Public works	51,306	73,210	—	21,904
Lighthouses	1,311	1,253	58	—
Parochial expenditure	2,132	2,058	74	—
	—	—	9,369	36,226
	451,078	477,935	—	26,857

	1881–82.	1880–81.	Increase.	Decrease.
Expenditure from appropriated Revenues.	£	£	£	£
Parochial roads	33,853	41,457	—	7,604
Kingston streets	414	279	135	—
Parochial municipal objects	9,180	5,565	3,675	—
Relief of the poor	32,361	36,141	—	3,780
Sanitary appropriation	3,304	2,753	551	—
Fire appropriation	1,109	1,405	—	296
Gas appropriation, Kingston	2,410	3,046	—	636
	—	—	4,361	12,316
	82,631	90,586	—	7,955
Total general expenditure	451,078	477,935	—	26,857
Total expenditure from appropriated revenues	82,631	90,586	—	7,955
Total immigration expenditure	24,522	31,545	—	7,023
Total ordinary expenditure	558,231	600,066	—	41,835
Expenditure out of Loans raised or to be raised.				
Jamaica railway	139,770	76,499	63,271	—
Jamaica Telegraphs	282	2,869	—	2,587
Portland bridges	163	—	163	—
Law 19 of 1880	2,718	—	2,718	—
	—	—	66,152	2,587
Total expenditure out of loans	142,933	79,368	63,565	—
Disbursements other than Expenditure.				
Sinking funds	14,853	18,210	—	3,357
Redemption of debt	168,935	9,387	159,548	—
Excess of withdrawals over deposits	—	11,832	—	11,832
	—	—	159,548	15,189
Total disbursements other than expenditure	183,788	39,429	144,359	—
Grand total expenditure	701,164	679,434	21,730	—
Total disbursements other than expenditure	183,788	39,429	144,359	—
Grand total disbursements	884,952	718,863	166,089	—

The general expenditure, which was 26,856*l.* less than that of the year before, hardly calls for any special remark. Soon after the commencement of the year, when the Government had reason to think that the chief sources of revenue would not come up to the estimate, it was decided to curtail all expenditure on improve-

JAMAICA.

ments that could be postponed without great injury, and this accounts in great measure for the considerable decrease under public works. The decrease under census is due to the work having been completed, while the other changes about balance each other.

The appropriated expenditure which was also less by 7,955*l.* than that of the year before is entirely in the hands of the several parochial boards. The decrease is principally under parochial roads, and may be attributed to the fact that the dry weather which prevailed during the greater part of the year reduced the expenditure for the keeping of such roads in order. There was also some decrease under the item for relief of the poor, which, however, was still in excess of the average expenditure of previous years, the effects of the distress amongst the lower orders consequent on the cyclone and protracted drought not having yet entirely passed away.

The immigration expenditure in its turn also shows a decrease (7,023*l.*) when compared with the year before. There were no expenses on account of introduction, and smaller amounts were required both on account of colonization and return passages.

The unusually large expenditure on account of redemption of debt was caused by the operations under Law 19 of 1880, under which debentures under the older Loan Acts were redeemed with money borrowed at a lower rate of interest.

There has been so much said of late on the subject of supposed unsoundness in the financial position of the Colony and so much misconception of the real condition of the finances has been shown, that it may be useful to point out here the true state of affairs by a brief retrospect of the revenue and expenditure of the Island; and for this purpose it will be most convenient to take the period of 1867-68 to 1880-81, as representing a term during which there was little or no disturbance of the incidence of taxation, the first year of the term having been that in which the basis of taxation was adjusted after the introduction of Crown Government, and the present year (1881-82) being excluded in consequence of the imposition during the year of the temporary increase of import duty and the extra duty on rum.

Taking first the revenue for this period and comparing the first year of it with the last, it will be found from the published accounts that there has been a total increase of revenue of nearly 181,700*l.*, of which not more than 16,700*l.* can be attributed to increased taxation, while, on the other hand, taxation has been reduced in other ways to the extent of 33,400*l.*; there has thus been a net decrease of taxation to the amount of 16,700*l.*, notwithstanding which the revenue has increased, as above stated.

The above shows the aggregate of both general and appropriated revenues; but, taking them separately, the results stand as follows:—

General Revenue.

	£
Increase of Revenue - -	157,600
Decrease of Taxation - -	28,500
The sum of these two amounts, viz.,	186,100

may be taken to represent the benefit accrued to the general public from the financial operations of the period.

Appropriated Revenues.

	£
Increase of revenue - -	25,100
Increase of rates - - -	4,900
The difference of - - -	20,200

indicates the improvement in parochial finances. By far the greater portion of the increased rates is for new services, viz., sanitary, fire, gas.

Turning now to the expenditure a similar comparison will show that the net increase for general purposes has been 195,700*l.*; of this, however, about 124,300*l.* was expenditure on services which were either altogether or almost new, leaving only 71,400*l.*, or say 5,000*l.* per annum, as the increased cost for maintaining the efficiency of the service and keeping pace with and advancing the progress of the Island.

The net increase of parochial expenditure has been about 50,700*l.*, of which 11,700*l.* may be set down as due to increase of rates (chiefly for new services) and the balance is the result of the better yield of former rates. These rates being applied by the parochial boards to specific local objects, and the expenditure being limited to the amount of the collections, any increase of expenditure, so far from needing justification, should, in fact, be the measure of the progress made by the boards towards the better attainment of the objects for which the rates are imposed.

Pensions.

During the year seven pensions, amounting in all to 261*l.*, were granted on the principles of the Imperial Superannuation Acts and Treasury Rules, in consequence of the retirement from office on the unavoidable grounds of either old age or ill-health permanently incapacitating the holder from the performance of his duties. The pension list has been, on the other hand, relieved by the death of nine pensioners who drew 727*l.*

Debt.

During this year the Island debt has been considerably affected by the operations under Law 19 of 1880 under which debt to the

JAMAICA.

amount of 390,256*l.*, bearing interest at the rates of 5 and 6 per cent, will have been paid off and consolidated into one loan., bearing interest at 4 per cent. The temporary relief in interest and redemption charges to the general revenue by this operation will be at the rate of about 14,000*l.* a year at first.

An instalment of 200,000*l.* of the loan authorised to meet the expenses connected with railway extension was also raised during the year. This amount, which bears interest at the reduced rate of 4 per cent., was readily taken up in London at rates ranging from 98*l.* to 100*l.* 5*s.* and averaging 99*l.*, being about ¼ per cent. higher than the previous issue of 4½ per cent. debentures.

No further amounts were raised during the year on account of any special local services.

The debt paid off during the year amounted to 6,600*l.* Of this amount 5,900*l.* was on account of the loan under 27 Vict. c. 27, and was met from the sinking fund accumulated for the purpose, and 700*l.* was on account of the old Kingston Streets Reconstruction Loan of 1865—was met from the surplus of the special sources of revenue under that Law. An amount of 9,186*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* under the old Immigration Loan Acts would also have been paid off from general revenue during this year, but advantage was taken of the provisions of Law 19 of 1880 to redeem the amount with money raised under that Law, and thus lighten the burden on the revenues of the year, which it was foreseen would fall short of the estimate.

The public debt directly secured on the general revenue has stood as follows on the 30th September in each of the last ten years, after making allowance in each year for the sinking funds actually invested for the eventual redemption of debt:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*		£	*s.*	*d.*
1873 -	554,492	18	11	1878 -	641,644	10	9
1874 -	539,108	8	2	1879 -	718,608	11	11
1875 -	548,024	3	7	1880 -	721,481	6	8
1876 -	501,413	8	5	1881 -	920,924	19	4
1877 -	485,107	11	5	1882 -	1,238,750	0	0

The large increases in 1878 was due to the transfer of the immigration debt as an obligation of the general revenue, and that in 1879, 1880 and 1881, to the loans raised for the purchase, reconstruction and extension respectively of the railway. In the year under report the increase, with the exception of the further instalments of 200,000*l.* raised on account of railway extension, is only apparent, and is due to the fact that the whole of the loan under Law 19 of 1880 is shown as a charge on the general revenue while 146,780*l.* of the amount have been raised to extinguish an equal portion of the liabilities of the several local commissioners (water, gas, markets and Rio Cobre), whose original liability in respect of the amounts redeemed on their account has been continued under Law 12 of 1882 to the general revenue as the holders of such original debentures.

The total amounts due by the several undertakings and including the sum of 146,780*l.* herein-before mentioned, stood as under on the 30th September last:—

	£
Rio Cobre irrigation - - -	126,500
Kingston and Liguanea waterworks - -	98,200
Kingston markets - - - -	20,000
Kingston gasworks - - - -	30,000
Kingston slaughter-house - - -	10,000

In none of these cases has it yet been found practicable to make from the special revenues any provision for the repayment of capital, although in one (the Kingston waterworks) some provision can now be made towards the redemption of debenture debt; while in regard to the Rio Cobre Irrigation Loan, the general revenue was called upon under its guarantee to pay 8,262*l.* during the year as the deficiency of receipts against interest on loan and working expenses of the canal.

Legislative Council.

The Honorables Samuel Constantine Burke, Crown Solicitor, and John Macglashan, Auditor-General, having tendered the resignation of their seats in the Legislative Council, Her Majesty was pleased to accept the same and to appoint in their places the Honorables Arthur Harvey Alexander, Protector of Immigrants and Thomas Capper, Inspector of Schools.

The Council met on the 22nd of November 1881, and was prorogued on the 14th of February 1882. It was re-opened for the object of amending the Railway Extension Loan Law, 1880, on the 18th of May, 1882, and adjourned on the next day. During its sittings thirty Laws were enacted.

Civil Establishment.

There were no changes in the higher offices of the Civil Service of the Colony during the year.

Dr. Mosse, the Superintending Medical Officer, was on leave of absence from the Island for seven months, during which period his duties were discharged by Dr. Pringle, District Medical Officer.

Major-General Mann, R.E., C.M.G., Director of Public Works, was also on leave of absence during the year for a short period and his duties were performed by his Deputy, Captain O'Brien, R.E.

Main Roads and Public Works.

The main roads throughout the Island are reported by the Director of Public Works to have been generally in very fair

JAMAICA.

order at the close of the year. The expenditure during the year was—

	£
For maintenance and repair - -	23,381
New works - - -	1,314
	24,695

The cost of maintenance of main roads and bridges per mile was 30*l.* 17*s.* 9*d.*

The total expenditure under all heads of the Public Works Department (excluding railways) was 62,100*l.* 8*s.* 8*d.*

The sum of 37,405*l.*, included in the above amount, was expended in miscellaneous repairs and maintenance of public buildings and works, the construction of some new works, expenses in connexion with land, &c.; and italso is charged wth the sum of 8,864*l.* 11*s.* 10*d.* for salaries of the Department and 475*l.* 16*s.* 11*d.* for rents, office contingencies, &c.

Among the new works constructed a sum of 2,458*l.* 9*s.* appears for the Old Harbour waterworks, which are now completed at a total cost of 3,208*l.* 15*s.* 11*d.* and handed over to the management of the Municipal Board of St. Catherine. This work must prove a boon to a district and village which have always suffered severely from the want of ready access to water.

The Spanish Town waterworks, still under the management of the Public Works Department, have shown satisfactory results in all respects, giving a return for the year of nearly 9 per cent. on the total capital expenditure.

An iron girder bridge on masonry piers over the Horse Savanna River, Portland, has been completed, and the improvement of the roads generally in various ways has been continued.

A few of the more important items of expenditure on the repair of existing public buildings or the erection of new buildings are mentioned below; new roof to St. Peter's Church, Westmorland, and Chichester Church, Hanover. The latter is not yet completed. Both these edifices are still on the list for external preservation as they are not yet transferred to the Dis-established Church.

The new range of cells at the General Penitentiary has been well advanced and the commodious new hospital completed and brought into use.

The infirmary for females at the Lunatic Asylum was almost completed.

Several police stations have been built or purchased.

New wards and other improvements have been added to several of the public general hospitals and prisons.

In the amount mentioned above as the expenditure for the year on public works was included also a sum of 4,319*l.* 18*s.* 1*d.* for the Rio Cobre Canal works.

It appears from the report that the maintenance and efficient working of this irrigation canal and its branches cost 1,726*l.* 9*s.* 5*d.*, and that an additional sum of 2,593*l.* 8*s.* 8*d.* was expended in

restoring and extending the part of the apron of the overfall which received damage during the floods of October, 1881. The Director observes:—"These important and difficult works appear "now to be as secure and complete as can be desired."

As regards the financial result of the year's working and the prospects of the undertaking, the Director thus reports:—"The "revenue earned during the year was 2,810*l.*; the sum actually "collected was 3,560*l.* 16*s.* 7½*d.*, the amount having been swelled "by arrears due the previous year.

"The sum earned in the year 1880–81 was 2,587*l.*, so that the "consumption of water for irrigation has increased only by about "228*l.*, with so much land lying idle whilst abundance of water "is ready at hand to render it highly productive. I look "earnestly and hopefully for the realization of one of the schemes "that have been projected for the establishment of central sugar "factories in this very suitable and inviting district.

"I believe that such a project, if judiciously carried out, would "prove remunerative to those who might undertake it, and it "would also be so beneficial to the irrigation works, that I "should be prepared to recommend very favourable terms for the "delivery of water at least for the first few years of the under-"taking, so as to encourage a scheme which would at once shew "the great value of the works and would in a few years make "them a very paying concern.

"The district engineer (Mr. Richmond) has remarked in a "recent report on the neglect of a proper system of tillage on "the part of many proprietors who take water for irrigation, "especially on the part of those who take water in small quan-"tities, in consequence of which the great advantages to be "derived from the judicious use of irrigation are for the most "part lost; and he has suggested that it might be advantageous "that the Government should undertake the cultivation of some "40 or 50 acres, as an experimental farm, under the manage-"ment of the Director of Public Gardens, &c., in order that "practical knowledge on the subject of irrigation might be "diffused." The suggestion of the district engineer has been brought under the consideration of the Director of Public Gardens and Plantations, and his report is awaited.

Lands.

Operations under the Land Laws have been limited during the year, as the following statistics will show. They indicate also that the object of these Laws has been so far attained that squatting has almost ceased to be mentioned in connexion with lands in Jamaica where formerly it was a by-word.

Proceedings under the 184th section of Law 22 of 1874 for obtaining possession of lands squatted upon were taken only in the following case:—Parish of Trelawny, squatters 300 acres.

Operations under Law 5 of 1871 for the absolute forfeiture of lands on which land tax and quit rents have not been paid

for five years and upwards show 32,988 acres denounced as liable to forfeiture.

Of lands already in possession of the Crown 4,678 acres were leased out during the year and 6,429 acres were sold, of which latter some 1,600 acres were sold at a nominal upset price on conditions stipulated for the extension of cinchona cultivation.

Railways.

The working of the completed line of railway between Kingston and Old Harbour with the short branch to Angels, 25½ miles in all, show a gross revenue of 26,015*l.* 2*s.* 11*d.* and gross expenditure of 13,141*l.* 8*s.* 3*d.*, leaving a net return of 12,873*l.* 14*s.* 8*d.* This net revenue is 2,935*l.* 0*s.* 9*d.* in excess of the net amount earned last year, and exceeds by 1,443*l.* 18*s.* 4*d.* the highest net revenue previously earned on the line.

This satisfactory increase may doubtless be attributed to the improved condition of trade during the year and to the increasing public confidence in the good management of the line generally.

The passenger traffic during the year was made up of 137,086 passengers and compared with the previous years as follows:—

——	1st Class.	2nd Class.	3rd Class.	Season Tickets.
1881–82 -	12,875	12,713	103,178	8,320
1880–81 -	10,024	13,719	97,673	7,780
1879–80 -	9,250	15,880	119,937	8,220

The working expenses of the line, although in excess of the amount spent last year, show a decrease in the proportion to the amount of the receipts, such proportion having been as under in each of the three last years:—

1881–82 - - - -	50·56
1880–81 - - - -	56·30
1879–80 - - -	58·07

The proportion in the year under report will be found to compare favourably with that on most English railways, while it is considerably less than that on the Trinidad line, which was 70·49 and 67·21 in 1881 and 1880 respectively.

RAILWAY EXTENSIONS.

The following information on this subject has been supplied by the Director of Public Works:—

Porus Extension.

The preliminary surveys and staking out of the line having been completed the works were forthwith commenced in May

1881, and carried on by Government till January 1882, at which time they were handed over to the contractors.

The value of work executed by Government amounted to about 16,000*l.*

Labour.

Labour has been plentiful, the number of hands employed averaging about 1,340.

Land.

The land required for the works is cleared of bush as far as the 18th mile and stumped, 44,000 lineal yards of post and wire fencing having been erected along the line of railway.

Earthworks.

All the banks and cuttings are in progress as far as the 18th mile, no earthworks having been commenced beyond this point.

The total amount executed to September 30th 1882, was 259,525 cubic yards.

Bridges and Culverts.

Two viaducts of three spans 30 feet and 25 feet respectively are completed.

An over bridge of 15 feet span is completed.

An arch of 20 feet span and 110 feet in length is completed.

A viaduct of three spans of 25 feet is in progress.

Four bridges of 25 feet span are in progress.

Two bridges of 15 feet span are in progress.

One bridge of 9 feet span is in progress.

Eighteen culverts varying from 2 to 8 feet opening are completed, and 17 in course of erection.

For the erection of bridges and culverts 3,078 cubic yards of earth have been excavated for foundations and 4,106 cubic yards of cement concrete used in their construction.

No masonry has been commenced beyond the 15th mile.

The weather throughout has been favourable for the progress of the works.

EWARTON EXTENSION.

Land.

All land purchased has been partially cleared.

Fencing.

6,000 lineal yards have been erected and other material is on the ground for fencing.

Earthworks.

All cuttings have been commenced, 265,000 cubic yards having been excavated since June 1881, three out of four tunnels have been commenced.

Masonry.

Fifteen small culverts have been completed and five arch bridges in concrete as well as three viaducts have been commenced.

Three retaining walls are in course of construction, two of which are 330 feet in length and 50 feet in height.

Two road diversions are being made.

Ballast.

6,000 cubic yards are spread and more is being broken.

Permanent Way.

Rails have been laid for the first mile and the cuttings and banks finished for that distance.

Labour.

The average number of hands employed daily has been 2,700.

Telegraphs (Inland).

The working of this department continued to be very satisfactory during the year, the revenue having been 3,310*l.*, or an increase of 714*l.* on the receipts of the year before.

In addition to the 33 stations which were open at the close of 1880–81 five more were opened during the year, and one which had been temporarily closed was re-opened, one of the new stations being at Port Royal, which has proved of great service to the naval authorities.

The total number of messages sent and received was 58,862, and exceeded by 12,003 the number in the year before. The revenue earned was more than sufficient to cover the disbursements of the year for working expenses, which amounted to 3,289*l.*

The Island Telegraph Department has now been in operation for little over two years, and is appreciated as a great public convenience. Indeed, with the large and increasing fruit trade, to which early intelligence is often of vital importance, and with the considerable number of steamers moving round the island, the means of telegraphic communication with the chief towns affords a facility without which the trade of the island would be seriously hampered.

District Courts.

The business transacted in each of the last 10 years is shown in the following summary :—

—	1873.	1874.	1875.	1876.	1877.	1878.	1879.	1880.	1881.	1882.
Criminal trials -	2,679	3,210	3,545	3,862	3,707	4,054	3,319	3,197	4,372	3,279
Small causes -	8,050	7,982	8,531	9,446	9,212	9,616	7,704	7,652	7,779	6,907
Judgment summonses - -	843	1,397	1,511	1,736	1,670	1,579	1,592	1,692	1,514	1,304
Equity cases -	13	7	5	6	8	21	20	15	19	14
Cases under Land Law - -	241	228	133	309	222	163	104	126	159	78
Bankruptcy cases	8	6	4	13	17	5	1	8	1	6
Probate cases -	29	23	39	62	93	94	102	109	147	131
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Amount claimed -	41,148	50,325	52,093	56,490	60,894	63,300	51,510	47,408	54,736	45,735
Judgment obtained	19,873	25,773	26,048	27,970	30,976	32,348	28,479	34,056	30,747	26,946
Costs - - -	3,810	4,212	5,812	4,952	5,531	5,626	4,952	4,957	5,351	4,496
Court fees - -	4,600	4,721	4,994	5,597	5,436	5,491	4,757	4,484	4,588	4,073

The decrease in criminal trials and small causes cannot be regarded as otherwise than satisfactory.

There were 14 appeals from the decisions of these courts during the year, nine being in civil, and five in criminal cases; in five cases judgment was reversed (all except one from the Northern District Court). In two cases judgment was set aside; in five cases the appeal was dismissed; one case was sent back for reconsideration, and in one case the judgment was affirmed.

By some ill-informed persons the usefulness of these courts has been called in question, and thoughtless proposals have even been made for their abolition.

To me, on the contrary, they appear to be absolutely indispensable for the due administration of justice. It is possible that, without great labour and expense, the Supreme Court could afford the means of disposing of the great majority of these smaller causes in all branches of the law, and most of them are quite beyond any jurisdiction which it would be proper to confide to justices of the peace in petty sessions.

PUBLIC GARDENS AND PLANTATIONS.

The Director in his opening remarks states that "the operations "of the Department in their more practical phase of raising and "distributing plants of economic value throughout the Island have "been most marked and successful." It may be added that the great usefulness of the Department in these respects is universally appreciated in the Colony, and is in some measure owing to the facility of free transport by the coasting steamer granted by the Atlas Company: the demand for plants and seeds of plants of economic value, flowering plants, shrubs, &c., has largely increased in the last few years. During the last year it may be mentioned

JAMAICA.

as indicative of the progress of cultivation of new products that 5,285 plants of Trinidad cacao and 2,911 plants of Liberian coffee, besides seeds, were distributed from the Castleton Garden alone.

The comparative drought felt in most parts of the Island during the year considerably retarded planting operations at the gardens. In connexion with this circumstance the Director takes the opportunity of calling attention to the subject of forest conservation. This matter is of great moment to agriculturists in the Island. There are great difficulties in the way of organizing a system not alone of conservation but of reforesting (which in many parts of the Island is needed). The chief difficulty may perhaps be the expense such a system, if thoroughly carried out, would entail, but the subject is engaging the attention of the Government, and the Director of Public Gardens and Plantations has been asked to study the subject in its relation to local circumstances and to make a report.

Castleton Gardens.

This is the principal seat of exchange of plants, seeds, &c. previously referred to; and, as showing the valuable work in this line that is being done at these gardens, it is sufficient to give the following details of plants distributed in the Island:—

Trinidad cacao - - - -	5,285
Liberian coffee - - - -	2,911
Nutmegs - - - - -	776
Cinnamon - - - - -	294
Cloves - - - - -	126
Oranges - - - - -	2,647
East India mango grafts - - -	43
„ „ „ seedlings - - -	36
Palms - - - - -	1,023
Miscellaneous fruits and economic plants -	1,778
Miscellaneous ornamental trees and shrubs -	8,045
Total number of plants distributed -	22,964

As I shall have occasion to mention further on, this is the more satisfactory, as a considerable number of plants are distributed from the Hope nurseries.

Cinchona Plantations.

When Government first took in hand the cultivation of cinchona it was an experiment to test the adaptability of the climate, soil, &c. of the high lands of Jamaica to the growth of this product. This has now been practically demonstrated by the shipment of considerable quantities of bark, the produce of the plantations, to the London market, where it has realized the highest prices. It is now the object of the Government, within the limited scope which it has set itself in this and cognate matters, to restrict further operations at the

plantations to experiments in the cultivation of different sorts of cinchona, especially as private enterprise has embarked to a considerable extent in the industry.

There are about 25 or 30 species, varieties and forms of cinchona barks now the subject of careful experiment and investigation at the plantation.

The demands of private cinchona growers have in most instances been fully met from the plantation nurseries.

The result of bark sales in London realized a sum of 2,539*l.* 2*s.* 8*d.* for a net weight sold of 18,732 lbs. The prices obtained were most satisfactory and encouraging. The highest prices, viz., 8*s.* and 4*s.* 11*d.* per lb., were obtained by no other C. officinalis bark in the market, while they were approached only by one sample of calisaya bark, usually considered more valuable than officinalis bark, which sold for 5*s.* 3*d.* per lb.

An attempt is about to be made to manufacture in the Colony cinchona febrifuge for the purpose of placing this most useful medicine within the reach of the poorer classes. Thus an additional object will be attained here which was not overlooked by the Home Government when advocating cinchona cultivation in the Colonies.

A certain number of cadets are received at the plantations for study, in order that after a period they may be considered fit to pursue cinchona planting on their own account with some certainty of success and to become managers of plantations.

Apprentices are also taken of the better class of native workmen, and these when they have served a sufficient time are available for employment on any plantations that may require the services of skilled men.

Kingston Parade Garden.

This garden has been properly maintained, and is still much appreciated by the inhabitants of the city, who frequent it in large numbers.

Palisadoes Plantation.

The cocoanut groves yielded a small return of nuts during the year, and this is attributed to the severe drought and the after effects of the cyclone of 1880.

Hope Plantation.

The distribution of economic plants is carried on from this plantation to a considerable extent. The nurseries, covering about two acres, are in good order and well stocked.

An acquisition of great importance to sugar planters has been made in a collection of some 44 varieties of sugar cane, procured through the kindness of the Government of Mauritius from a collection made by Mr. Horne, Director of Gardens and Forests in that Colony, who was commissioned by the Chamber

of Agriculture there to make a selection of the best sugar canes found in Australia and the islands of the Pacific. These canes will be utilized for propagation as quickly as possible.

As an indication of the interest now taken by planters in the introduction of new varieties of cane, it may be observed that the demand during the year for tops for planting was beyond the resources of the Department to supply.

Education.

The statistics furnished by the Inspector of Schools for the year 1881-82 indicate a quick recovery of the schools from the temporary depression of the previous year.

Six hundred and twenty-seven schools received grants in aid this year as against 601 last year, and the total amount of the grants have also increased by nearly 700*l.* The following statistics show the comparative results for 1880–81 and 1881–82:—

Year.	Schools inspected.	Schools receiving Aid.	On Books.	Pupils in average attendance.	Percentage in average attendance of number on Books.	1st Class Schools.	2nd Class Schools.	3rd Class Schools.	Exceptions.	Failures.	Grants in aid
											£
1881 -	687	601	48,960	26,649	54·41	52	195	343	11	86	17,547
1882 -	677	627	53,366	29,894	56·02	47	164	409	7	50	18,225

The total number of children between the ages of 5 and 15 shown by the census of 1881 to be in the Colony at that date was 123,824; of these it appears that 53,366 were on the books of schools during the year 1881–82 and 29,894 pupils were in average attendance. It is at a glance apparent that large numbers of the children of the Colony are not taking proper advantage of the means of education, but at the same time it is not to be assumed from the foregoing figures that over 65 per cent. of the children get no education. On the contrary, the school statistics go to show that the children have, on an average, three years each in an elementary school, and in some districts it has not been yet possible to place schools within reasonable distance for use by the children of residents in those localities.

As I have remarked in my last year's report on the subject of education, there is no evidence of a disinclination on the part of the people to take advantage of the benefits of education for their children when and where these can be readily obtained.

The average attendance at the schools has been much more regular than last year, and this is no doubt due to the easier circumstances of the parents.

The Inspector of Schools points out that the increase in average attendance is greatest in parishes like Manchester and St. Elizabeth, where the best schools are to be found, and least in such parishes as Portland and St. Thomas, where the character of the schools is, generally speaking, low.

A strict observance has been insisted on during the year of the regulation making the class of schools dependent upon the marks attained in each of the principal subjects as well as upon the total number. This has caused a decrease in first and second class schools, but that fact is of itself sufficient evidence of the usefulness of the rule, which will ensure for the future much improvement in the system of teaching.

The low educational status of the teachers of the elementary schools as a body has often formed the subject of remark in connexion with the Educational Department. It is therefore with satisfaction that I observe the establishment, mainly through the exertions of Mr. Hicks, of teachers' associations throughout the Colony. The objects of these associations are to promote the interests of teachers, to advance their profession, to increase the efficiency of their work, and generally to further the cause of elementary education in Jamaica. Mr. Hicks remarks: "The most "important of the means provided are doubtless these two,— "the dissemination among the members of educational books and "periodicals and the holding of educational meetings." No one who knows the conditions and circumstances surrounding the teachers in Jamaica will disagree with Mr. Hicks' views of the importance of these points.

Complaint is made that the work of dictation and arithmetic in the schools is not satisfactory. Undoubtedly the difficulties of English orthography have much to answer for as regards deficiencies in the former branch of school exercises, and it should not be lost sight of that, in the case of the teachers themselves, they fail to pronounce their words clearly, and of the children in a greater degree that they do not know the English language sufficiently well to be able to follow its sound, even if well delivered. It must not be forgotten that the so-called English language spoken by the negroes of perhaps less than fifty years ago was a barbarous jargon of English words intermixed with others of Spanish and French origin, grafted on an African stem, forming, in fact, a "patois," and that the children of such parents have not yet learnt to use a much purer form of speech. The failure in arithmetic is ascribed to the faulty manner of teaching, and not to the lack of ability on the part of the scholars to master the science. As a matter of fact, the negro is in practice remarkably shrewd in money calculations and the science of numbers generally.

Speaking generally of the schools of the Island, it may be said that they are doing good work; their defects where existing have been pointed out by the Inspectors, and this, although naturally, in some cases has given rise to controversy and some vexation, will have the effect of inducing a closer watch by managers and

JAMAICA.

their teachers, resulting in improvement and steady progress towards a much higher standard than any of the schools can at present boast of.

Immigration.

The transactions of this Department, apart from the supervision and protection of the East Indian immigrants already in the Island, were limited to the despatch of one return vessel to India, which conveyed to Calcutta 448 souls, equal to 397 statute adults. These immigrants took with them treasury bills to the amount of 4,049*l.* 5*s.* (less than the ordinary accumulations) and the usual quantity of jewellery.

There were no immigrants introduced during the season, owing to the non-application of proprietors for a sufficient quantity to render the charter of a vessel justifiable. The death-rate amongst indentured immigrants during the year was 4·56 per cent., while last year it was 3·78 per cent. The births show a slight increase, 2·23 per. cent. this year against 2·15 last year.

The following summary shows the number of East Indian immigrants in this Colony on the 30th September, 1882 :—

Serving under indenture - -	2,012
Who have not completed ten years' residence	3,685
Who have completed ten years' residence	8,126
	13,823

Emigration.

In somewhat striking contrast to the almost total cessation of that immigration which was at one time strenuously asserted to be so necessary to the welfare of the Island as to warrant the heavy annual contribution to its support now borne by the general public, appears the fact that during the year under report alone the emigration of labourers from the port of Kingston, so far as it has been feasible to record it, has been 3,144; and at the time of the writing of this report is at the rate of about 1,000 per month to the Panama Canal works and to Mexico and Yucatan. In face of the coincidence that the sugar crop reaped during the year has been the largest for the last 31 years, and that the total number of indentured immigrants in the Island is returned by the Protector at barely 2,000, this exodus of native labour affords of itself a pointed commentary on much of the argument used to prop up the claim made for increased aid to immigration fund from the public purse.

The contractors for the extension of the railway works, who employ nearly 5,000 labourers, find that the system on which they deal with the people secures to them as much labour as they need and of a kind which gives them satisfaction, and I have not learnt that the Public Works Department experience any difficulty in carrying on their services.

While the immediate loss of any productive labour may be regarded as a misfortune to the country, it need not, I think, in this instance be assumed to be an altogether unmixed evil, and it may, on the contrary, ultimately lead to beneficial results in a better appreciation and more permanent settlement of the labour question in this island, and to such an improvement in the position of the labouring class as will tend to remove from their minds any general inclination to emigrate with the view of bettering their prospects.

It is known that many of the emigrants to the Isthmus come back to Jamaica—as far as can be ascertained as yet about a third of the whole number have done so—bringing with them money with which they arrange their affairs and aid their families. Many of them return to the canal works, taking others with them.

I am disposed to anticipate advantage from this ebb and flow in the development of intelligence and habits of industry among our population; and whenever the canal works are completed by far the majority of these emigrant labourers will find their way back to their native land.

Government Savings Bank.

The number of depositors and amount of deposits in the bank for the last 10 years are shown below :—

Year.	Number of Depositors.	Amount of Deposits.
		£
1873	3,962	158,933
1874	4,582	179,176
1875	5,061	228,028
1876	5,431	243,171
1877	5,756	253,983
1878	6,002	273,620
1879	6,341	294,589
1880	7,297	333,970
1881	7,970	342,339
1882	9,543	324,847

In the above amount for 1882 are included eight deposit accounts for the following public funds :—

	£
Immigration colonization fund - -	12,106
Immigration return passage fund - -	7,514
Constabulary reward fund - - -	1,406
Sinking funds - - - -	14,644
Smith and Beckford's charity - -	2,135
	37,805

JAMAICA.

There are, further, 133 accounts for trusts, charities, chancery suits, Administrator General, and bankrupt estates amounting to a total deposit of 27,820*l.* The remaining 9,402 deposits of 259,222*l.* are all ordinary savings bank accounts. Of the 9,543 accounts, 8,748 did not exceed 100*l.*, and 5,248 did not exceed 5*l.* Among the depositors were 636 coolies with deposits amounting to 14,050*l.* The decrease in the total amount of the deposits as between 1881 and 1882 is explained by the treasurer to be due to the closing of certain Government funds, the ordinary deposits having increased in number by 1,573, of which more than half are depositors of 5*l.* and under. This increase is the more gratifying when it is considered that for the whole of this year the rate of interest was reduced from four to three per cent., and may be taken as evidence that the people recognize in the bank an institution which gives them security and in which their confidence has been firmly established.

Of the deposits at 30th September, 1882, 20,061*l.* were invested in the Three Per Cent. Consols, 261,644*l.* were in Colonial securities other than those of Jamaica, 9,509*l.* were applied to the discount of the notes of employers, given to meet the cost of introduction of indentured immigrants, and 33,633*l.* was the Treasury debt to the bank. The Island debentures amounting to 196,288*l.* which the bank held were, during the course of this year, dealt with under the provisions of Law 19 of 1880 and the sum realised invested in other securities. Although by this operation the bank has suffered a diminution in the rate of interest on a considerable proportion of its investments, this diminution is compensated by the reduction in the rate of interest payable to depositors, and the effect has been to make such investments independent of any local circumstances, and thus increase the stability of the institution.

During the year 3,417 accounts were opened and 1,844 closed, and the transactions were represented by 19,946 deposits amounting to 154,579*l.* and by 17,956 withdrawals of 175,304*l.*, the increase in the amount of withdrawals being attributed to the closing of certain Government fund accounts referred to before. The withdrawals on account of ordinary depositors are this year less by 15,646*l.* than in the year before.

Four new sub-branches were opened during the year and one was closed, and additional facilities were afforded to depositors by the opening of the head office in Kingston from seven to nine o'clock on Saturday nights. Depositors are now allowed to withdraw amounts by application by telegram.

The expenses of management and the interest credited to depositors amounted to 11,784*l.* against a revenue from investment of deposits of 15,041*l.*, leaving a difference in favour of the bank of 3,257*l.*, which is now carried to the credit of the general revenue.

Trade.

The value of the imports in each of the last 10 years has been as follows :—

	£		£
1872-73	1,733,121	1877–78	1,492,722
1873–74	1,762,817	1878–79	1,347,342
1874–75	1,759,942	1879–80	1,475,197
1875–76	1,700,254	1880–81	1,392,669
1876–77	1,552,339	1881–82	1,321,962

this being, in fact, the lowest year in the decade, and showing a falling off of 70,706*l.* as compared with the previous year, the decrease being manifest on goods paying specific duties, which show a decline on the whole in value to the extent of 200,989*l.*, while ad-valorem and free goods exhibit an increase in value of 108,553*l.* and 21,729*l.* respectively. Of the decrease in the value of rated goods, the three items, however, viz., bread or biscuit, flour and meal, or breadstuffs alone, show 131,949*l.* which is nearly double the total net decrease, and is mainly due to the largely increased production of food grown by the native population. Unfortunate as the effect has been upon the trade and revenue of the Colony, the fact cannot be taken to indicate any decadence in the prosperity or industry of the mass of the population. Under ad-valorem goods the following articles show the largest decrease:—drugs and medicines, 1,235*l.*; groceries and confectionery, 2,438*l.*; stationery, 1,622*l.*; unenumerated 4,573*l.*; woollen and worsted, 1,961*l.*; while there are increases under bags, sacks and bagging, 1,003*l.*; carriages and parts, 1,177*l.*; cotton manufactures, 77,445*l.*; earthen and china ware, 1,472*l.*; haberdashery and millinery, 3,426*l.*; hardware and cutlery, 9,735*l.*; leather boots and shoes, 5,880*l.*; leather, unenumerated, 2,642*l.*; oznaburgh, 2,779*l.* Under free goods, there are decreases under steam engines, 10,329*l.*; stills, 3,441*l.*; iron wire, 2,279*l.*: while shooks of all sorts, 8,053*l.*; wood hoops, 7,861; coals, 13,376*l.*; and ice, 1,071*l.*; show increases of the amounts placed after each item.

On reviewing these figures, it would appear that there has been a remarkable decrease in the importation of food stuffs which was hardly anticipated to such an extent, although it was known that the large home production of ground provisions and other essentials grown by the native population would cause a considerable reduction in the demand for such importations. Having thus provided their own food the mass of the population had more money to spend on personal comforts, such as clothing and fancy articles of dress, which would account in a great measure for the very considerable increase under cotton manufactures.

JAMAICA.

The following table, showing the value of the articles imported which were freed from duty in 1867, is given in continuation of similar tables in previous reports:—

—	1872-73.	1873-74.	1874-75.	1875-76.	1876-77.	1877-78.	1878-79.	1879-80.	1880-81.	1881-82.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Steam engines -	28,603	11,485	18,152	15,360	14,735	8,857	7,306	2,802	20,709	10,380
Mills - -	13,804	10,219	5,803	5,128	1,643	2,115	5,724	2,661	1,702	2,203
Other machinery -	9,149	5,026	11,331	2,434	11,443	3,113	3,402	3,323	5,075	3,260
Pans for boiling sugar.	4,603	2,839	3,649	1,318	2,134	2,483	2,124	6,132	1,190	809
Pipes for fluids -	19,687	1,801	1,830	1,955	3,755	2,095	1,193	1,435	1,534	2,600
Stills - -	6,076	3,986	6,848	3,153	1,619	1,880	433	696	5,217	1,777
Shooks of all sorts -	17,051	17,070	20,299	15,845	14,545	11,761	7,460	8,488	4,370	12,424
Staves - -	5,205	15,207	21,650	11,816	19,503	6,040	4,524	10,519	3,299	10,645
Wood hoops -	1,856	1,822	2,192	1,609	1,447	2,066	1,643	1,919	756	1,932
Iron, galvanized -	6,971	5,339	5,746	4,533	3,259	2,229	2,097	974	5,156	3,595
„ other manufactures.	—	462	—	5	—	381	—	1,344	4,964	14
Miscellaneous -	5,243	3,559	3,050	3,872	5,651	3,730	4,892	4,592	7,443	5,015
	118,248	78,815	100,550	67,028	79,734	46,750	40,798	64,885	61,415	54,654

The figures of the past year do not call for any special remarks except that the large increase over the year before, in the importation of shooks and staves, was doubtless due to the large crops of sugar and rum.

The value of the exports in each of the last 10 years is shown below:—

—	Values.		
	Of Produce and Manufacture of the Colony.	Of British, Foreign, and other Colonial Produce and Manufactures.	Total.
	£	£	£
1870–71	1,196,532	52,153	1,248,685
1871–72	1,348,858	69,585	1,418,443
1872–73	1,144,173	81,838	1,226,011
1873–74	1,369,507	72,573	1,442,080
1874–75	1,359,868	50,616	1,410,484
1875–76	1,440,131	76,884	1,517,015
1876–77	1,419,625	39,004	1,458,669
1877–78	1,165,145	35,560	1,210,705
1878–79	1,262,869	94,702	1,357,571
1879–80	1,427,144	85,834	1,512,978
1880–81	1,104,407	74,187	1,178,594
1881–82	1,471,917	77,141	1,549,058

being an increase this year of 370,464*l.* on 1880–81, of 32,043*l.* on 1875–76, which was otherwise the highest year in the decade, and of 205,354*l.* on the average of the five years preceding 1881–82. The increase on the year 1880–81 is made up of island produce, 367,510*l.*, and British, foreign, and other colonial produce 2,954*l*; while the increase on the average of the five

preceding years is made up of island produce, 194,079*l.*, and British, foreign, and other colonial produce 11,275*l.*

On analysing the values of the several articles of export the principal increases appear under fruit, 80,053*l.*; pimento, 24,974*l.*; rum, 121,239*l.*; sugar, 277,382*l.*, while there are decreases under cattle, 7,240*l.*; coffee, 97,848*l.*; ginger, 3,639*l.*; sticks, 1,540*l.*; cigars, 3,524*l.*; logwood, 38,780*l.*

The values of the several articles of island produce exported bear the following per-centage proportions to the total export value as compared with a similar proportion for the year before :—

	1881–82.	1880–81.
Sugar - - - -	41·73	30·5
Rum - - - -	20·08	15·7
Coffee - - - -	9·07	20·9
Logwood - - - -	6·24	11·9
Fruit - - - -	8·44	4·
Pimento - - - -	7·66	8·
Others - - -	6·78	9·

The exports of the principal staples for the last 10 years are shown in the following table :—

Exports	1871–72.	1872–73.	1873–74.	1874–75.	1875–76.	1876–77.
Sugar - - hhds.	35,353	28,428	28,398	27,847	29,074	30,569
Rum - - phns.	20,113	16,584	19,350	21,359	22,048	20,648
Coffee - - lbs.	9,510,739	7,199,144	10,311,427	7,136,307	8,649,049	9,532,887
Pimento - - lbs.	5,140,898	6,024,551	5,762,256	6,440,040	4,474,690	6,670,603
Dyewoods—fustic and logwood - tons	80,699	52,952	65,241	84,523	77,229	47,697
Ginger - - lbs.	590,766	815,659	1,181,789	1,490,845	1,613,764	1,097,863
Arrowroot - lbs.	13,193	2,470	1,636	21,983	21,152	3,514
Fruit, value - £	6,190	4,757	10,397	20,526	22,350	39,451

(*continued*)

Exports.	1877–78.	1878–79.	1879–80.	1880–81.	1881–82.
Sugar - - hhds.	26,066	29,151	32,117	21,056	38,392
Rum - - phns.	18,115	18,792	18,586	13,952	22,742
Coffee - - lbs.	9,411,662	10,8[illegible]2,127	10,188,897	9,846,096	7,418,638
Pimento - - lbs.	6,195,109	5,881,176	10,215,479	6,058,264	8,514,517
Dyewoods—fustic and logwood - tons	36,070	58,658	48,024	45,459	33,409
Ginger - - lbs.	908,603	769,636	889,847	751,494	608,334
Arrowroot - lbs.	4,599	7,982	4,480	1,888	5,116
Fruit, value - £	40,175	51,295	51,295	44,216	124,269

The exports of sugar and rum have been certainly the largest for the last 31 years and possibly the largest since the year

JAMAICA.

1842, if allowance is made for the admitted fact that there has been great increase in the size of packages nominally the same. Ginger and dyewoods show the smallest export of any year in the decade, and there is also a considerable decrease in the export of coffee. On the other hand the cultivation of pimento and arrowroot would appear to be reviving.

The very large increase in the export of fruit must be a matter for unmixed congratulation, for it must be borne in mind that the amount represented by these figures is actually paid to residents in the Island and circulates in great measure among the labouring classes.

The fruit trade appears to have entirely recovered from the severe check sustained from the effects of the cyclone in 1880, which were not apparent until 1880–81, and in the words used by the Collector-General in his last annual report, "with the "remarkable strides it has made within the past three years, "there would appear to be no ascertained limit to this branch "of our exports."

The exports from the Colony during the past five years were distributed in the following proportions :—

—	1877–78.	1878–79.	1879–80.	1880–81.	1881–82.
United Kingdom -	78·8	73·26	67·3	66·5	62·5
United States -	14·14	15·	20·1	18·9	17·8
Dominion of Canada -	·06	1·05	5·2	6·2	12·9
Other Countries -	7·	10·69	7·4	8·4	6·8

The above shows that the export trade with the mother country is gradually declining and being diverted to the United States and Canada.

Agriculture.

In reviewing the agricultural statistics of the year it will be useful to bear in mind, what has been stated before in similar reports, that the land available for cultivation in this Island is 2,353,797 acres.

It is shown by the statistics furnished by the Collector-General's department that of this area there are 123,523 acres on which property tax has been collected as being in cultivation otherwise than in Guinea grass (the chief fodder here for cattle and horse-kind) and in pasture land and pimento (this product being grown in lands which are also almost always utilized for grazing purposes).

The different heads of cultivation, and the area on which the taxes have been collected are, as understated, in comparison with previous years. But, as a matter of fact, I believe these returns

to be often inaccurate and misleading. Payments of taxes during the year only are stated. Arrears due do not appear, and the amounts collected do not truly represent the land under cultivation :—

	1881–82.	1880–81.	1879–80.	1878–79.
Canes - - - Acres	39,870	39,712	43,071	44,860
Coffee - - - „	19,671	18,456	20,732	21,316
Minor products (ginger, arrowroot, &c.) - - „	984	826	719	756
Tobacco - - - „	345	408	292	339
Cacao - - - „	48	26	34	35
Vegetables - - - „	*523	29	18	44
Ground provisions - - „	62,082	51,334	56,365	53,247

* 490 acres paid for "bananas."

It will be seen that cane cultivation appears to have decreased by about 5,000 acres within the last four years, but there has been an increase in the present year of 158 acres as compared with last year.

Abandonment of unproductive estates has taken place of late, and cultivation on some properties has been restricted to a smaller area and better treated, but the crop of this year was the largest for the last 31 years, and it is within my knowledge that cultivation has been resumed on several estates which had been said to be wholly or partially abandoned.

In several districts the cane was affected by a blight, which did some damage. The disease was investigated by the Director of Public Gardens and Plantations, and proved to be the result of the visitation of an aphis. In the southern districts a caterpillar was very prevalent for a few weeks, but its effect soon passed off and did not extend.

Coffee cultivation has diminished apparently, according to statistics, by 1,641 acres in the last four years, but during this year it has nominally increased over last year by 1,215 acres. These fluctuations are probably not real. Coffee is not a plant requiring to be annually sown or planted, and the trees once established live many years. No one destroys coffee trees wilfully, and the explanation may be found in the fact that the coffee fields of the small settlers are used also for the cultivation of other crops, which leads to their being sometimes accidentally returned under one head and sometimes under another.

There has been a small decrease known in one parish (Portland) due to destruction of bearing trees by the cyclone of 1880, and perhaps by the substitution in some other instances of fruit culture by small settlers; but although prices have recently ruled low, and the drought in the lowland districts has seriously affected the crop, these dispiriting circumstances have not led, it is certain, to any material reduction in the acreage in cultivation.

JAMAICA.

Tobacco cultivation has apparently remained stationary during the period under review, a circumstance to be regretted in an Island possessing such favourable soil in many portions for the successful working of the industry.

The cultivation of fruit must be judged of by the exports; these show that it has advanced in strides.

The largest export of bananas was during 1879–80, when 440,642 bunches were shipped against 38,689 bunches in 1873.

In 1880–81 in consequence of the cyclone the export fell to 217,592 bunches, but in 1881–82 it has risen to 887,370 bunches representing a value of 88,737*l.*

In 1872–73 the quantity of oranges shipped was 2,501,250 and progressed annually to 1879–80 when 14,609,489 were shipped; in 1880–81 23,626,209 and in 1881-82, 35,456,978, representing 33,684*l.* in value.

Cocoanuts, though not treated as fruit, are exported from the Island in large quantities, and the demand is so great that it cannot easily be supplied.

The export of the nut has increased from 3,614*l.* in value in 1872-73 to 10,225*l.* in 1881-82. It is, however, less than the exports in 1879–80 which were valued at 20,525*l.* The decrease was caused by the number of trees blown down by the cyclone, and probably of nuts lost from trees not destroyed.

The extraordinary rise in the fruit trade generally may be realized by observing that in a decade it has expanded from an export value of 8,360*l.* to one of 134,494*l.*, and its prospects of still further expansion are very promising indeed.

In many parts of the Island, especially the eastern end, the creation of the fruit trade and its progress has added much to the prosperity of whole districts, where for many years since emancipation and the abandonment of sugar estates rich lands had been left untilled and neglected.

Notably this has been the case with Portland, not so very long ago regarded as among the poorest parishes in material wealth, but now rapidly rising in importance.

I remarked in my last report that many gentlemen of means had embarked in the speculation of growing cinchona on Government land sold to them under certain conditions at a nominal upset price; and I may add that the area of land purchased for the cultivation of this valuable bark is rapidly increasing.

Cacao cultivation is receiving a large share of attention, which the statistics of the year do not show, as the land would not be returned under this head until the cacao comes into bearing.

In the Bath district of St. Thomas it is said that about 250 acres have been regularly planted and are highly cultivated; in Portland about 300 acres have been established under the shade of bananas; in St. Mary, a considerable quantity of plants of the best Trinidad varieties have also been planted out; in St. Andrew, St. Catherine, St. Elizabeth and other parishes, the cultivation of the cacao is progressing.

There has been an increase during the year of 10,748 acres planted in ground provisions over last year. This is in itself, though but a single fact, pointedly inconsistent with the oft-repeated assertion that the negro is not industrious and progressive.

In most parts of the Island a plentiful crop of ground provisions was reaped, and, consequently, the amount of prædial larceny has returned to its normal insignificance.

The very large emigration of labourers to Panama and other places has not apparently hindered agricultural operations during the year, but it will no doubt, in the near future, create some scarcity of labour, unless such inducements are held out to the labouring class as will make it better worth their while to apply their labour at home.

Planting operations during the year were carried on under considerable disadvantages in some places owing to the comparative drought which was felt in many parts, but especially in the north-eastern and southern divisions of the Colony, but the results nevertheless were gratifying, specially as far as sugar was concerned, to an almost unprecedented extent.

Constabulary.

The strength of the constabulary force on the 30th September 1882, was 1 Inspector-General, 21 officers, 122 sub-officers, and 560 men, being 10 less than the authorized strength. Of the sub-officers and men 667 were able to read and write.

One hundred and ninety rural head men and policemen distributed throughout 12 of the country parishes, according to the area of each parish (Kingston being exempted from the Law and St. Andrew declining to avail itself of its provisions), formed a very useful adjunct to the regular police force.

In Kingston 207 sub-officers and men are stationed under one inspector and three sub-inspectors, inclusive of a small detachment stationed in the neighbouring town of Port Royal, which for certain purposes is treated as part of the city.

A water police force of 15 men included in the strength of the detachment does duty about the harbour of Kingston and the wharves of the city, and is a valuable auxiliary in the prevention and detection of crime.

The remainder of the police force, exclusive of recruits under drill at the depôt and the head-quarter and depôt staffs, is stationed throughout the several parishes of the Island in detachments varying in number according to area and local requirements, ranging between 47 sub-officers and men in the very large parish of St. Catherine to 22 in each of the much smaller parishes of Hanover and St. James.

As compared with the size of the Island, 4,193 square miles, with the difficulties of locomotion which, though much lessened of late, are still great, and with a scattered population of 580,804,

JAMAICA.

the strength of the police force, including its adjunct the rural police, is extremely moderate.

The police during the year, it is reported by their Head, performed their duties satisfactorily. It is unnecessary to particularize these duties, as they did not vary from those of previous years, or differ from the routine duties of police forces. The force in Jamaica is happily not called upon to cope with disaffection or to put down very serious affrays.

The following statistics are furnished by the Inspector-General of cases brought before the magistrates' courts:—

Discharged for want of evidence or prosecution - - - -	3,765
Acquitted - - - -	3,342
Convicted - - - -	6,919
Committed for trial in Superior Courts -	4,307
Undisposed of on 30th September, 1882 -	341
Total - - - - -	18,674

And the following are the results of the committals to the superior courts:—

Abandoned for want of evidence or prosecution - - - -	829
Acquitted - - - -	1,063
Convicted - - -	2,346
Remaining undisposed of on 30th September - - - -	265
Total - - - - -	4,503

I may observe that offences against property committed without violence and simple larcenies have greatly diminished, and that the crime of prædial larceny has been reduced to a remarkably low figure; on the other hand, the number of cases of arson is still large, and the crime of feloniously wounding horses and cattle is on the increase. Law 10 of 1881 to regulate the sale of drugs and poisons has been worked with beneficial results, and it is reported that, through the vigilance of the police in securing compliance with the provisions of Law 20 of 1879, there have been very few sugar-mill accidents.

There has also been a marked decrease in burglary and shop-breaking cases in Kingston; 30 cases were reported to the police, of which 17 were traced. These figures show how rare these crimes are in a city with a population of 38,566 souls, including its suburbs, inhabiting over 6,350 houses, and the comparison appears in a still more favourable light when it is remembered that the structure of the buildings generally is not such as to give security against attacks of this kind. The Inspector for Kingston reports that in six of the cases of burglary entry was effected

through windows which had not been properly secured, and he further states that during the year the constabulary found 144 premises left open.

The Inspector-General reports that "the police have been pretty "vigilant during the year in the prosecution of offenders against "the Highway Laws."

The cause of vaccination has been considerably aided by the police. It is reported that over 21,254 children and adults were vaccinated during the year by the medical officers through the instrumentality of the police, and that 94 persons were prosecuted for non-compliance with the Law.

The Health Laws and Quarantine Law have called for and received the active co-operation of the police with the proper authorities in the carrying out of their provisions.

The Habitual Criminals' Registry has been properly kept up and shows 1,353 criminals under supervision on the 30th September last, and that 171 were re-convicted during the year.

The "Police Gazette" still continues to be of great service in the detection of crime.

Prisons.

A remarkable decrease of over 20 per cent. is shown in the number of convicts in the several prisons and gaols of the Island during the year, as compared with last year, and this may almost entirely be ascribed to the cessation of prædial larceny in its transient epidemic form which was engendered by local scarcity of food and other causes. Probably also the decrease may be attributable in some degree to the considerable emigration to the Panama Canal works of that class which contributes chiefly to the prison population.

The employment in the several institutions in this Island has not varied from former years. In the penitentiary at Kingston the usual trades are carried on, and brickmaking and lime burning occupy the convicts to a considerable extent. In the district and short term prisons their labour is utilized in stone-breaking, mending roads, making coir, &c.

In the penitentiary penal labour is in force to the extent of work on the treadmill for all classes of prisoners during the first six months of their imprisonment and a crank is also in use for refractory characters; this latter punishment has only recently been revived.

Penal labour by means of shot-drill is in force, or partially so, in all the district prisons except that of St. Mary's, but in the short term prisons there is no sort of penal labour in force.

The evil of overcrowding has occurred in some years in the penitentiary and other prisons of the Island; but it has been absent this year. However this may be now, owing to the increase in population more than in the increase of crime, the great requirement is a sufficiently large and well-arranged additional prison to be placed at some readily accessible spot out of Kingston and

JAMAICA.

designed for the reception of prisoners committed for terms of one year or more and less than five years.

During the year improvements have been effected in the Penitentiary by the entire abolition of the associated wards. A new hospital with a range of hospital cells attached for the special confinement of prisoners under medical observation has also been completed. New dumb cells on an improved plan are far advanced towards completion.

Improvements have also taken place on the female side.

The district prisons have been improved during the year in the lighting of the associated wards at night and the commencement of a system of night schools.

Structural alterations tending to better ventilation have also been carried out in these prisons.

There was in many of the prisons an absence of any religious teaching and it has during this year been arranged that a short service is to be held regularly every Sunday by the several superintendents somewhat after the style of that in use on board ships of war.

Vital Statistics.

It is necessary to introduce any comments upon the vital statistics of the Colony for the year by stating that the population of the Island according to the last census (1881) was returned at 580,804 persons, including military and naval forces and transient seamen.

The numbers of births and deaths in the year were 20,749 and 11,874 respectively, showing the natural increase of 8,875 to the population, or at the rate of 15·2 per thousand persons living. The rate in the previous year was 10·7 per thousand.

It is noteworthy that while the birth rate has declined, only 1 per 1,000, the death rate has decreased from 26 to 20 per 1,000, and the average excess of births and deaths for the last three years shows a natural increase to the population of over 7,000 a year.

Marriage has not proportionately increased to any extent during the year, the number of marriages being 2,368 or 4 per 1,000 of the population as compared with 3·7 in 1879–80 and in 1880–81. The paucity of marriages is much to be deplored, and in intimate connexion with the subject may be noticed the fact, that the illegitimate births were in proportion of 58·2 to each 100 children born, or over 12,000 children born out of wedlock during the year.

It is indeed grievous that such a state of morals should continue to exist where Christian influences have been at work for such a long time, even since the abolition of slavery, nearly 50 years ago. But it must not be forgotten that the examples of the immediate progenitors of the present generation exist in many cases and are still objects of imitation to their descendants. Whatever the Church or moral instruction may do home example in this direction is a very considerable equipoise. The higher education

of the women of the Colony will undoubtedly effect some good, and the education of the girls by persons of their own sex will also tend to a more refined state of things.

It is undeniable that the moral status of the peasant women of this Colony has always been and still is extremely low and that scarcely any successful efforts have been made to raise it.

The deaths during the year were, as already stated, 11,874 in number, or at the rate of 20 per 1,000 of the population, and a sad feature in the roll, which otherwise is not high, is the death rate of children under five years of age, which equalled 38·5 per cent. of the total number of deaths. The chief causes contributing to this very regrettable mortality are the incompetence of native midwives and the ignorance and carelessness of mothers, whose natural instincts must in very many cases be blunted by the conditions of loose, immoral surroundings and vicious course of life. Another cause undoubtedly is the poverty of the mothers in a large number of cases. Abandoned by the fathers, the children have to depend entirely on the scanty earnings of the mothers. The Bastardy Law, though in force, is not of much avail.

It is satisfactory to notice that there has been no epidemic of any sort during the year, although the neighbouring Islands of Cuba and Hayti and some of the States of Central America, have suffered from visitations of small-pox. No fatal cases have been registered here during the year. Strict quarantine has been enforced against these places, and to this may be ascribed our escape.

Yellow fever, for which the Colony had once an unenviable notoriety, has been almost unknown of late years, and last year there were only four cases, all of seafaring persons, which is above the average of the last four years.

The Registrar-General still complains of the number of deaths returned not medically certified. It is hoped that the recent establishment of a ticket system of medical relief for the poor will place the services of the medical officers more within the reach of the people; but it is unfortunately too true that they prefer rather to use their own remedies, or to employ the quacks who abound, than to avail themselves of the services of the regular practitioner.

General.

Reviewing the course of events within the Colony during the year, I regret that I cannot chronicle the revival of the import trade, which has continued in a state of depression partly from causes it is believed not confined to Jamaica, but also from the abundance and large consumption of local food which has diminished importations of supplies from abroad.

Diminished public income is not in this case any indication of general distress.

As regards the sugar planting interest my remarks under the head of agriculture shows how much it has been gratified by an

JAMAICA.

excellent crop. Coffee, on the contrary, has partly failed and a low price also reigned for the article in the home market. Diminished consumption and lessened revenue from import duties may be in some degree traced to this as a cause, as it is known that the comfortable or straitened circumstances of a very large proportion of the peasantry and settlers of the better sort among them depend more upon the coffee crop than on that of sugar.

The fruit industry, it is gratifying to state, has been extending itself conspicuously and bids fair to receive further development into a truly important business, affecting many classes of society.

The drought during the year has been much felt in many parts of the Island, the rainfall having been scarcely one half of the usual quantity.

Notwithstanding this drawback the negroes' provision grounds seem to have been fairly productive and, as a consequence, prædial larceny has dwindled down to an insignificant amount.

The statistics of the railway and telegraph services show how greatly they are appreciated. There is practical illustration every day of the moving about of the inhabitants of the Colony to an extent unknown before. The great want in the Colony has always been easy and quick means of locomotion, and, though much has been done and is being done for the attainment of the object, a great deal requires still to be accomplished, and this will not be so until further railway extensions are carried out and more parochial roads cut and maintained. For this latter purpose the revenues appropriated to parochial road services are in many cases inadequate. With an increasing population, industriously bent, additional outlets to shipping places and markets are absolute necessities, and this is felt in the Colony at the present time.

The health of the Colony has been remarkably good.

The usual good order and peace of the community have not been disturbed. There has been a considerable amount of political agitation but it has not reached the peasantry, to whom political questions appear to be of no interest, and the intelligent among them manifest from time to time, in their own way, their confidence in the justice and equity of the administration of the Government.

A. MUSGRAVE,
Governor.

King's House, 17th April 1883.

JAMAICA.

No. 15.

PAPER READ BY D. MORRIS, Esq., M.A., F.G.S., BEFORE THE ROYAL COLONIAL INSTITUTE.

Planting Enterprise in the West Indies.

IN accepting the kind invitation of the Council to read a paper before the Royal Colonial Institute, I have been actuated simply by a desire to bring before its members, and through them before Englishmen generally, some points of interest connected with the present position of planting industries in our West India possessions.

It may be as well for me also to mention that in coming before you this evening to treat of these industries, I do not wish to appear in the capacity of an advocate of any particular views or doctrines, nor do I desire to bring up or discuss any of the numerous problems of a purely controversial character, which have from time to time arisen in connexion with the treatment of West India questions. Such problems, however interesting they may be to the politician and reformer, do not necessarily fall within the range of my subject; and hence, I believe, I shall best carry out the objects of the Institute, as well as endeavour to do justice to the great interests involved in the topic of my paper, if I confine myself chiefly, to a statement of facts as bearing upon the position and prospects of planting enterprises in the West Indies, and to a simple enumeration and description of such industries as have more particularly come under my notice.

These West Indian industries, many of them new ones, are seemingly in course of being gradually extended and improved; and, as the general opinion with regard to the West Indies is, that they are either utterly ruined, or in a state of stagnation and decay, I would ask your kind indulgence while I endeavour to place before you the results of careful inquiry and observation, and give my reasons for sharing the belief that most of our West India possessions have already passed through the worst of their depression and troubles, and are beginning to enter upon a new and more prosperous condition. And if I am able to place my facts before you in such a manner as to enlist your interest and sympathy in favour of these oldest of our Colonial possessions, I shall feel that my humble effort has not been in vain.

At the outset, however, I desire, as one who has felt the value, and had many opportunities of judging of the results, to express my thanks for the facilities afforded by the Royal Colonial Institute

JAMAICA.

for the discussion of questions affecting the well-being of the Colonies, no less than for its consistent and powerful advocacy of Colonial interests generally. I am sure I do but re-echo the sentiment of every colonist and planter, not only in the West Indies, but in every Colony throughout the Empire, when I earnestly desire that the operations and scope of the Royal Colonial Institute, in relation to Colonial industries, may become day by day of a more permanent and extensive a character, and when I heartily wish it God-speed in its noble work.

I mentioned just now that the general impression with regard to the West Indies is that they are either in a state of stagnation or decay. No doubt, owing to the abolition of slavery and subsequently to the low prices of sugar, brought about by unequal competition with bounty-fed beet sugar, the West Indian sugar planters have had to contend with difficulties unequalled in the history of any single industry. Is it, therefore, a matter of surprise that the sugar islands of the West, depending almost entirely for their prosperity and success on a single industry, when that industry was completely crushed and paralysed, should have become depressed or that capitalists, looking upon them as hopeless, should have sought other openings for their investments?

For the last 30 or 40 years, the tide of emigration, as regards tropical planters, and consequently the flow of capital, has steadily set to the eastward, and thousands of men possessing capital and energy have settled on the Nilgiris, on the slopes of the Himalayas, and on the mountains of Ceylon, to cultivate tea, coffee, and cinchona. More recently they have gone still further east, to Perak, Johore, Sumatra, and Borneo.

Now, however, that the dreadful coffee-leaf disease has induced so depressing an influence in all Eastern countries, and whilst Englishmen are contemplating investing their capital in countries not under British rule, and in places so remote and so little accessible to the chief markets of the world; it seems not inappropriate to consider what lands, what facilities for culture, and what returns on capital, the West Indies—within some 18 days' of England, and in close and easy communication with the vast markets of Europe and America—have to offer the pioneer and the planter.

In order to place the subject-matter of my paper before you, this evening, in as clear and as intelligible a manner as possible, I would remark that by the term "British Possessions in the West Indies" I wish to include the Bahamas, the whole of the British West India Islands, together with British Honduras (a dependency of Jamaica), and the Colony of British Guiana.

Both geographically, as being all in the Western tropics, as well as by their vegetable productions and planting industries, these possessions form a natural group, having a common interest in the development of the natural products of the soil—all of which are of an essentially tropical character.

Having thus defined the scope and range of my paper, and indicated its geographical limits, I would mention that I purpose,

in the next place, to enter upon a brief statistical inquiry respecting the present position of our West India possessions, and endeavour to show in what respects they have advanced, or fallen back, from their position of some 15 or 20 years ago. Following this, I will refer, as fully as my time will permit, to the planting enterprises which have been, or are in course of being carried on in the West Indies, and indicate in what respects they offer grounds for a more hopeful view than is generally taken respecting the future of these nearest and oldest of our vast tropical possessions. JAMAICA.

With regard to the relevancy of statistics, as bearing upon the subject-matter of my paper, I may mention that, as the West Indies are essentially and purely agricultural, and as their industries and commercial relations are based upon the natural resources and productions of the soil, any carefully compiled statistics connected with them should indicate the extent and position of those industries, and the measure of success to which they have attained.

The British possessions in the West Indies, using the term in the sense above indicated, have a total area of nearly 100,000 square miles; that is, an extent of country nearly equal to that of New Zealand, and more than four times that of the Island of Ceylon.

With regard to the population of the West Indies, it is often believed to be either stationary or declining. This, however, is by no means the case with the creole, or negro population, or even with the whites. The population of the West Indies in 1881 was 1,493,062 as compared with 1,279,507 in 1871, and 1,107,667 in 1861. This shows an increase of population equal to 16 per cent. on the returns for 10 years; and an increase of nearly 35 per cent. on those for 20 years. It would appear, therefore, that the rate of increase of population in the West Indies is much greater than that of the United Kingdom, in which the rate of increase at the census of 1881 was under 11 per cent. This large increase appears to be general, and not confined to any particular locality. Moreover, it is only very slightly influenced by coolie immigration. The total number of free and indentured coolies in the West Indies, according to the latest returns, viz., those for 1882, was not quite 90,000: of these more than two thirds, or 62,000, were in British Guiana. As compared with other British Colonies, the population of the West Indies is greater than that of any of the larger Australian Colonies; and more than three times that of New Zealand.

The total export and import trade of the West Indies in 1881 amounted to an aggregate value of nearly 17 millions—the exact figures being, exports 8,913,014*l.*, and imports 7,746,470*l.* This is an increase of nearly 3½ millions on the value of the export and import trade in 1866; and is nearly one half of the total value of the export and import trade of British North America.

The annual revenue of these possessions in 1881 was 1,866,782*l.* which, as compared with that of 1866, shows an increase of more

JAMAICA.

than half a million. The public debt in 1881, incurred chiefly in the extension of railways and public works, was 2,023,913*l.* or only a little over one year's income. Since 1881 a large reduction of this debt has taken place, especially with regard to British Guiana, which lowers the amount to about 1,586,000*l.*, or considerably less than that of 20 years ago.

The statistics of the several Colonies are given in the subjoined table :—

BRITISH POSSESSIONS IN THE WEST INDIES.

Table showing Area, Population, value of Exports and Imports for the year 1881, *together with Annual Revenue and Public Debt.*

Colony.	Area in Square Miles.	Population 1881.	Exports.	Imports.	Revenue.	Public Debt.
			£	£	£	£
Bahamas -	5,390	43,521	114,100	168,380	41,294	57,837
Jamaica -	4,193	580,804	1,549,058	1,321,962	544,436	920,925
Honduras -	7,562	27,452	247,403	201,811	43,642	—
Turks Islands	169	4,732	25,616	27,054	8,392	—
Windward Islands—						
St. Lucia -	237	38,551	194,694	127,362	32,431	34,100
St. Vincent	147	40,548	141,576	129,026	30,637	2,000
Barbados -	166	171,860	1,140,361	1,119,213	132,942	—
Grenada -	133	42,403	194,280	131,985	37,176	10,780
Tobago -	114	18,051	83,583	59,582	16,830	—
Leeward Islands—						
Virgin Islands -	57	5,287	5,249	4,999	1,604	—
St. Christopher -	68	29,137	213,080	169,688	29,909	3,200
Nevis -	50	11,864	38,672	32,789	7,723	—
Antigua -	170	35,244	178,582	151,883	41,583	57,432
Montserrat -	32	10,083	35,205	25,347	5,938	3,000
Dominica -	291	28,211	55,163	64,968	24,033	11,900
Trinidad -	1,754	153,128	2,099,101*	2,226,276†	464,967	500,720
British Guiana - -	76,000	252,186	2,597,291	1,784,145	403,245	422,019
Total -	96,533	1,493,062	8,913,014	7,746,470	1,866,782	2,023,913

As regards the distribution of the trade of the West Indies, the value of the exports, including bullion and specie, to the United Kingdom for the year 1881 was 5,015,964*l.*, and the value of the imports from the United Kingdom during the same period was 3,407,775*l.* Next to the mother country, the United States of America, as might naturally be expected, appear to secure the

* Includes 551,184*l.*, value of bullion and specie exported.

† Includes 80,000*l.*, value of cacao, coffee, &c., in transit, and 554,217*l.* bullion and specie imported.

The exports and imports of Jamaica are for the year 1881–82.

'argest proportion of the West Indian trade. I am unable to give a detailed statement of the trade between each Colony and the United States, but as regards Jamaica, Barbados, Trinidad, and British Guiana the figures are as follows:— JAMAICA.

Value of the Imports of Jamaica, Barbados, Trinidad, and British Guiana (including Bullion and Specie), distinguishing the Principal Countries.

Colony.	Total Imports.	From the United Kingdom.	From the United States of America.	From British North America.	From other Countries.
	£	£	£	£	£
Jamaica - -	1,321,962	646,052	549,724	147,376	50,517
Barbados -	1,119,213	433,840	451,385	101,584	232,404
Trinidad - -	2,226,276	828,444	397,854	72,176	927,802
British Guiana -	1,784,145	833,847	397,806	88,527	*463,965
Total -	6,451,596	2,742,183	1,796,769	409,663	1,674,688

* Includes 241,047*l.* for rice from India.

Value of the Exports of Jamaica, Barbados, Trinidad, and British Guiana (including Bullion and Specie), distinguishing the Principal Countries.

Colony.	Total Exports.	To the United Kingdom.	To the United States of America.	To British North America.	To other Countries.
	£	£	£	£	£
Jamaica - -	1,549,058	783,205	223,585	73,450	468,818
Barbados -	1,140,361	454,601	273,766	207,629	204,365
Trinidad - -	2,099,101	995,925	193,703	84,541	*824,932
British Guiana -	2,597,291	1,771,441	514,101	73,733	238 016
Total -	7,385,811	4,005,172	1,205,155	439,353	1,736,131

* Includes 323,500*l.* for cacao exported to France.

In a comparative statement extending back some ten years, it is very noticeable that the United States and Canada are yearly securing a larger proportion of the West Indian exports in the form of sugar and tropical fruits, while the export trade with the mother country is gradually decreasing. The same may be said of the import trade, which, with the United States and Canada, in the form of flour, dried and salted fish, lumber and canned goods, is assuming important proportions.

Whether this distribution of trade will continue in the same directions remains to be seen. Judging simply from the geographical position of our West India possessions and their proximity to the prosperous and rapidly increasing populations of the United

JAMAICA.

States and the Dominion of Canada, and the fact that they can supply most conveniently and cheaply most of the Colonial produce desired and in great demand in these countries, the natural inference is that it will probably do so. There are some, however, who believe that when the Panama Canal is opened, not only will the trade and prosperity of many of the West India Islands, and especially of Jamaica, considerably improve, but they will be brought into more direct and rapid communication with the mother country, and thus to a great extent the distribution of their export and import trade will be materially affected.

To understand aright the relative positions and capabilities of our West India possessions, it is necessary to remark that, with the exception of the continental elements—British Honduras and British Guiana—they are composed of numerous islands "varying in size "from mere coral islets—dotted like stepping stones for giants over "the Caribbean Sea—to a fair and fertile land as large as Yorkshire." Without entering upon any scientific details, it may be mentioned that most of the smaller islands are of organic origin, being composed of coral structures and the *débris* of marine shells and forms upheaved to the surface by subterranean forces: others are purely volcanic, yielding, when disintegrated, soils of great richness and fertility: whilst the largest and most important islands, such as Jamaica and Trinidad, have been largely formed by alluvial deposits resting upon or combined with volcanic rocks indicating great alternating periods of elevation and depression. The physical features of these islands are chiefly indicated by bold rugged mountains, deep, well-sheltered valleys, with a fringe of gently sloping, rich, alluvial plans, varying in breadth from one to twenty miles near the sea, forming the lowlands. The rivers, fed by abundant tropical rains, are very numerous, but small and rapid.

The mineral wealth of our West India possessions is very small: in fact, with the exception of some sulphur in the Lesser Antilles, traces of copper in Jamaica and the Virgin Islands, and asphalt in Trinidad, they may be said to be entirely devoid of mineral resources. The true wealth of these possessions lies in the characteristics and products of the soil; and, without exception, in this respect they afford means of development and of permanency of prosperity equal to any in the world.

Such resources, under any circumstances, should afford hopes for the future, but when combined with an advantageous geographical position, with a splendid and salubrious climate, with abundant springs, with varying altitudes of land suitable for cultivation, and with a large and increasing indigenous population, they should attract the serious attention of Englishmen; and I doubt not, when fully understood and generously and wisely treated, such resources will ultimately lay the foundations of great and abiding industries.

If I have been rightly understood in the general tendency of my remarks so far, I shall have led you to look for the true development of our West India possessions, not in their mineral wealth,

not in any large stores of timber, nor in any manufacuring industries, but, simply, in the natural products and resources of the soil; and to secure the full development of these, there are wanting only capital and labour intelligently and wisely used, and proportionate and suitable to the ends in view. JAMAICA.

The staple industry of the West Indies for more than two centuries has been sugar, with its secondary products, rum and molasses. In spite of the disorganisation of the labour market consequent upon the abolition of slavery, and in spite of the unequal competition of beet sugar, the sugar cane still remains the chief industrial plant of our West India possessions. Not only that, but the West Indies, at present, produce more sugar than all the other British possessions put together. For instance, during the year 1881, the quantity of raw sugar exported from all the British possessions amounted to 7,833,504 cwts. Of this 4,697,445 cwts., or more than two thirds, was produced by our possessions in the West Indies: the remainder, or 3,136,059 cwts., being the produce of Mauritius, India, Natal, Fiji, &c.

The chief sugar-producing Colonies in the West Indies are British Guiana, where sugar, molasses, and rum form 92 per cent. of the annual value of the exports; Barbados, where sugar and molasses contribute nearly 94 per cent. of the exports; Jamaica, where sugar and rum form 62 per cent, of the exports; and Trinidad, where sugar and molasses contribute about 56 per cent. of the exports.

The best appliances and the largest sugar estates are found in British Guiana and Trinidad; and the establishment of *usines* or central factories in these Colonies has not only greatly improved the quality of the sugar, but it has placed planting operations on a more elaborate and extensive scale.

In Barbados, the estates are small, but so highly cultivated that the whole island looks like a beautiful garden. In Jamaica, the sugar estates may not compare favourably, either in culture or in mechanical appliances, with those of its neighbours, but the Jamaica sugar planter has a considerable advantage over all others in the superior quality and high prices obtained for his rum, which reaches an annual export value nearly equal to one half of that of sugar.

Although, owing to a succession of bad seasons and drought, other crops had done not so well in Jamaica, the sugar crop of 1881-82 was the largest for many years. The exports were: sugar, 38,392 hhds., of the value of 614,283*l.*; and rum, 22,742 phns. of the value of 295,645*l.*; the total value of sugar and rum being 909,928*l.* This is an increase on the exported value of these articles, as compared with 1880-81, to the extent of 398,621*l.* It is possible, as claimed by some, that the reduction in the number of rat-eaten canes, brought about by the acclimatisation of the mungoose in Jamaica, may have contributed something to this large increase; but the bulk of the increase is no doubt due to a combination of circumstances favourable for the moment to the sugar estates, but not so favourable to other industries.

JAMAICA.

During the last few years many efforts have been made to economise the cost of the production of sugar, and so bring it into favourable competition with beet and other sugars. Possibly, next to improved machinery and a more rational and scientific treatment of the soil, nothing can be more conducive to the success of our West Indian sugar estates than the introduction of new varieties of canes, to replace or supplement those which have been so long and so persistently cultivated within the same areas. With such varying conditions of soil and climate as exist in the West Indies, it may naturally be expected that numerous varieties of canes are required to enable the planter to obtain the best results. In other words, it is believed that with the sugar-cane, as with all other plants, the continuous cultivation of the same kinds on the same lands must result in reducing their health and vigour, and consequently the quantity and value of the produce. Where estates have no nurseries, and tops for planting are taken from weak and practically abandoned canes, the general character of the cultivation must be gradually lowered, even in the best soils. No plan can be recommended so likely to overcome this as the introduction, from time to time, of new kinds of sugar canes which are the result of careful selection and cultivation in more favoured countries.

Through the agency of the Royal Gardens at Kew, an institution to which the West Indies is especially indebted, numerous varieties of sugar-canes have been introduced, many of which have proved of great value. Recently, a large and successful consignment of new sugar-canes was received in Jamaica, from Mauritius, which promises to yield several new and productive canes. The consignment consisted of 44 varieties of canes carefully selected by Mr. John Horne, F.L.S., Director of Gardens and Forests, Mauritius.

Mr. Horne, having given special attention for many years to the selection and cultivation of sugar-canes, was commissioned by the Chamber of Agriculture in Mauritius to make a selection of the best sugar-canes found in Australia and the islands of the Pacific, and forward them for experimental purposes to that Island. This Mr. Horne did during the years 1877-78, finally closing his labours in Fiji. From the canes thus obtained, Mr. Horne, by permission of the Government of Mauritius, forwarded 44 of the best varieties to Jamaica, where all but one, No. 3, have arrived safely. In forwarding these canes, Mr. Horne writes :—

"The varieties are all good strong growers, and yield a large quantity of sugar. In this latter respect I would particularly call your attention to the 'Lahina' variety. I was told when in the Sandwich Islands that this cane yielded as much as an average of 6 tons sugar per acre on areas as extensive as 100 acres; and 7½ tons per acre, on an average, over areas of 20 acres or less in extent. However, after the first ratoons it should be uprooted, as the second ratoons are nearly or almost worthless. The variety 'Samuri' is the favourite cane with the sugar-cane planters in Fiji. It is hardy, grows rapidly, and yields sugar freely."

JAMAICA.

While in Louisiana, U.S.A., in December of last year, I found that the Lahina cane, mentioned above, was under cultivation there, and was very favourably reported upon. I brought with me to Jamaica an additional supply of this cane for distribution, as well as supplies of two other valuable canes, known in Louisiana as the Red Ribbon and Java canes.

Turning again to the more general question of the cultivation of sugar in the West Indies, I would mention that for most of the low rich lands of our West Indian possessions, where the indigenous labour is abundant and cheap, as in Barbados, or where coolie immigration, to supplement the indigenous labour, is carried on systematically and successfully, as at British Guiana, Trinidad, Jamaica, &c., the cultivation of sugar is, and I trust always will be, a leading industry.

But taking into consideration the physical characteristics of the West Indies, the great diversity of their soils, the varying altitudes of their lands, and the great differences in their climatic conditions, if viewed aright, all these would betoken agricultural operations as varied and as diversified as the conditions herein indicated. Besides this, the lessons of the past should teach us that we cannot depend, however much we may wish to do so, upon any one single industry. Under the keen competition offered by newer and richer lands in other countries, it is our duty to look more keenly than ever into the nature and character of our resources, and, while estimating them at their proper value, endeavour to assign to each locality and to each description of soil and climate the industrial plants best calculated to promote the wealth of the country. As I mentioned lately, with regard to Jamaica, in our endeavours to build up a permanent prosperity for the West Indies, we should be guided entirely by their natural capabilities and the condition of their labour supply: and, in the light of what is done under similar circumstances in other countries, endeavour to turn to advantage all such natural gifts as lie around us. The history of all essentially agricultural communities teaches us there is safety only when we plant many things: or, in plainer words, in agriculture as in other commercial enterprises, it is not wise to "place all our eggs in one basket."

If we introduce and cultivate too exclusively any particular plant of commercial importance, it always happens sooner or later, that some predatory organism, vegetable or animal, fastens upon it, and often entirely destroys our expectations of reward. Such has been the general experience with regard to sugar, coffee, the grape vine, cotton, wheat, hop, and the potato. They have all suffered more or less from such visitations, and the moral is that we cannot disturb the natural conditions of their growth—as we often do by injudicious cultivation over extensive areas—and violate the order of nature for our profit, without finding consequences often entailed which are very much to our hurt.

Possibly the depression which overtook the West Indian sugar industry, like that which now has overtaken the coffee industry in

JAMAICA.

Ceylon, if viewed aright, was a blessing in disguise. Be that as it may, I believe it is now pretty well understood and acknowledged, that the West Indies, to be prosperous, must grow many things besides sugar; and, as it has the capabilities to grow, with profit and success, such valuable products as coffee and cacao, tea, and cinchona; spices of all kinds, such as cinnamon and nutmeg, clove and cardamoms, black pepper and vanilla: ginger and arrowoot, jalap and sarsaparilla, fibres and oils, india-rubber and tobacco, dye-woods and cocoa-nuts, as well as the finest and most luscious tropical fruits, we should devote proportionate attention to each of these valuable products, and endeavour to fortify ourselves against fluctuations of markets, falling off in the demand for certain products, as well as against all the predatory visitations of animal and fungoid organisms which too often attend a too exclusive effort to take advantage of the vegetable wealth of nature.

A very common impression exists that most of the rich soil of the West Indies has been already under cultivation, and that, in many respects, it is almost exhausted. How far this is borne out by facts will appear from the following. In British Guiana, for instance, cultivation, so far, is wholly confined to about a dozen or 15 miles along the sea coast; while the vast, rich lands of the interior are wholly untouched. In Trinidad, according to an official estimate, "less than one-tenth of its area is cultivated, and "its resources are developed only to a small extent." Out of an estimated extent of 1,280,000 acres of splendid "cohune ridge" or alluvial virgin soil, in British Honduras, according to a late return, only some 10,000 acres, or less than one-hundredth part, is, or has been, under cultivation. Coming to the older and more settled Colonies, as they have been for the most part under cultivation in sugar, lands on the lower slopes of the hills and in the plains only have been chiefly worked. The bulk of the hill lands, most of which possess magnificent soil and a splendid climate, have been practically untouched.

For instance, in Jamaica, on the northern slopes of the Blue Mountains, there are, at the present time, about 100,000 acres of land in virgin forest, richer and finer than any now cultivated, admirably adapted for the growth of tea, coffee, and cinchona. At lower elevations, in the central districts of the Island, to the west, I estimate that above the range for sugar, there are fully 200,000 acres suitable for the cultivation of oranges, cacao, spices, and most tropical produce.

In the neighbourhood of Spanish Town, and within easy reach of railway facilities, the Rio Cobre irrigation works embrace an extent of country equal to about 50,000 acres, now mostly in pasture and ruinate, but admirably adapted for the cultivation of bananas, oranges, cacao, and spices.

In the lesser Antilles, to the west and south, similar circumstances are found, and indeed throughout the West Indies you will hardly find a single island without plenty of unoccupied land suitable for the growth of either sugar, cacao, coffee, spices, tobacco,

or coco-nuts. Barbados, and possibly Antigua, are the only islands of any importance which have no hill lands still available for cultivation; but with regard to the former, as I have elsewhere remarked, "the rich character of the soil in Barbados, and the "successful results of the high culture it has received," may be gathered from the fact that while the "Sugar Planter," a paper devoted to the interests of the sugar industry in Australia, gravely discusses the exhaustion of cane fields, the "Planters' Journal," of Barbados, somewhat facetiously remarks that "the land of this "island, even now, shows no sign of exhaustion, although it was "converted into cane fields within a measurable distance of Noah's "flood."

In Dominica, the President, Mr. Eldridge, in the Blue Book Report for 1879, refers to the facilities for obtaining land in that beautiful island, "unsurpassed in Her Majesty's dominions for fer-"tility." Large tracts of these lands, in the interior, belong to the Crown, and they can be purchased at an upset price of 1*l.* per acre. Another official report states that "at least one half the total area "of Dominica is available for agricultural purposes, amounting to "about 96,000 acres. . . . At the present moment there is not a "third of that extent under cultivation."*

Coming further south, Grenada has a considerable area of mountain land available for cultivation; while at Tobago probably fully two thirds of its area are still covered by virgin forest.

This review, necessarily rapid and general, will at least show to what a small extent really, the rich and fertile lands of the West Indies have been so far utilised. In British Guiana alone there is an area of country equal to two Ceylons quite untouched; in British Honduras we have more than the total area of the Fiji Islands; to Trinidad we could add the wealth of the Straits Settlements; and with the resources of the unworked soil of Jamaica we might emulate the prosperity of, at least, four Colonies of the size of Mauritius.

Next to sugar, rum, and molasses, the most important articles of production in the West Indies are cacao and coffee. Up to within a few years ago, these two articles were almost exclusively produced by Trinidad and Jamaica, each of which had a corresponding number of acres under cultivation, and an equal gross value of exports. For instance, in Trinidad 25,188 acres were returned under cacao, yielding a gross export value of 270,906*l.*; while in Jamaica 22,853 acres were returned (in 1878) under coffee, yielding a gross export value of 271,449*l.* Latterly, however, Grenada has become a large cacao-producing Colony, and it will shortly, no doubt, approach Trinidad in the value and extent of its exports. The success of the cacao industry in this Island is very remarkable and suggestive. In a comparative statement, published

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See Report on Coffee Cultivation in Dominica, by H. Prestoe. Government Printing Office, Trinidad, 1875.

JAMAICA.

in the Blue Book Report for 1879, the staple products of Grenada are thus shown :—

	1848.	1878.
Sugar - - -	6,071 hhds.	2,580 hhds.
Cacao - - -	3,995 bags.	24,394 bags.
Rum - - -	2,156 phns.	113 phns.
Spices - - -	nil.	50,800 lbs.

From this, it appears, that while "the cane cultivation is rapidly "declining in Grenada, and less sugar is made from year to year," the cacao industry is being increased tenfold. By these means Grenada, which was once in a languishing condition, has become one of the most prosperous of the Windward Islands. Again, in Dominica, cacao cultivation has been greatly extended, and the quality of the produce improved by fermentation and better curing. This will appear from the following: While in 1872, the export of cacao from Dominica was 204,773 pounds, of the value of 2,546*l.*, in 1878—that is, six years afterwards—the exports had risen to 342,945 pounds, of the value of 12,572*l.* Dominica was once noted for its coffee industry, and in 1833 it exported 1,612,528 pounds; in 1873 this had fallen to 13,319 pounds, and in some years it has even been less than this. The impression has been prevalent that the abandonment of coffee cultivation in Dominica was entirely caused by an insect blight; but according to Mr Prestoe, who specially reported upon the subject, he is of opinion "that the blight had very little to do" with the abandonment of coffee estates, which was due chiefly to the low prices and to the results attending the unsettled state of labour during the last 50 or 60 years. Dominica has, however, so many valuable resources, and enjoys so favourable a position, that it is destined to become the home of numerous industries; and I believe these only require an energetic start and suitable shipping facilities to rival any of those of the neighbouring islands. The late Dr. Imray and his successor, Dr. H. A. A. Nicholls, have successfully introduced the cultivation of Liberian coffee, limes, india-rubber, and spices to Dominica, and the results, published in the Annual Report of the Royal Gardens at Kew, are full of interest, and most suggestive of what may ultimately be accomplished in this highly productive Island.

In Jamaica, cacao cultivation, where once it was a flourishing industry, is now being revived and extended in connexion with the cultivation of bananas for the United States.

It is estimated that about 1,000 acres are in course of being planted with cacao in Jamaica; and some 80,000 plants of the best

Trinidad and Caracas varieties have been distributed from the Public Gardens.

As bananas and cacao thrive in exactly similar situations, and under the same system of cultivation, the returns yielded by the bananas (which bear during the first 15 or 18 months after planting) are more than sufficient to cover the whole cost of planting the cacao. In other words, owing to the development of the fruit trade in Jamaica, a cacao estate can be successfully established, and its working expenses entirely cleared, by the profits on the sale of bananas. Planters, seeing this, are utilising their banana plants as nurses for the cacao plants, and hence, when the bananas cease to bear, the cacao plants will remain as a permanent cultivation and a source of continued wealth to the proprietor. As mentioned, lately, in my official report, "where bananas obtain good prices, as in Jamaica, it is no exaggeration to say that a cacao estate can be established there under more favourable conditions than in any other British possession."*

One of the most simple, but by no means the least profitable, of our West Indian industries, is that of coco-nuts, which, to distinguish from cacao, cocos, and coca, are generally known in commerce as "koker-nuts." The finest nuts in the West Indies, and probably in the world, are grown on the coast of Central America; and British Honduras, in this respect, should become one of the largest and most prosperous producers of coco-nuts. Wherever there is a low, rich coast line, not too much exposed to hurricanes or strong winds, and where there are regular and cheap shipping facilities, coco-nuts offer very advantageous means for supplementing the resources of the planter; and I know of no country where such high prices, and where such a regular demand exists for green nuts as the West Indies. Latterly as much as 6*l.* per thousand were paid in British Honduras for coco-nuts, and very few could be had at that price. The general price for coco-nuts in the West Indies varies from 50*s.* to 80*s.* per thousand; at present they are about 70*s.*

It has often occurred to me that if, in the palmy days of sugar-planting in the West Indies, an effort had been made to cover the apparently barren coast lands with groves of coco-nuts, the abandoned estates, now so desolate, would have been mines of wealth to their proprietors, richer and more permanent than anything derived from sugar.

A coco-nut plantation in the West Indies, well established and in full bearing (say at the end of eight years), with 60 trees to the acre, may be safely assumed to be of the annual value of 10*l.* per acre. The expenses of maintaining a coco-nut plantation, when once established, is practically nothing; hence the thousands of acres of land bordering the sea-coast of our West India possessions are capable of immense development.

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* For those who require a more detailed account of cacao cultivation in Jamaica, *see* "Cacao, How to Grow and How to Cure it." London: S. W. Silver & Co., 67, Cornhill.

JAMAICA.

The largest export trade in coco-nuts is, probably, from Jamaica, where in 1880 over 6,000,000 nuts, of the value of 20,500*l.*, were shipped, chiefly to the United States and Europe. Next to Jamaica comes Trinidad, with exports of over 4,000,000 nuts, of the value of 14,000*l.* British Guiana exported in 1879 a little over a million coco-nuts, but it is probable that this number has been greatly exceeded. It is remarkable that localities possessing such wonderful facilities for the cultivation of coco-nuts as the Windward and Leeward Islands should, up to the present time, do little beyond supplying their own wants. Dominica, with its unrivalled lands for the cultivation of this valuable palm, does not export a single nut. Barbados is in a worse position, for she has to import coco-nuts for her own use. Whether this is due to want of cultivation, or to the unsuitability of the soil and climate to the growth of the plant, is not known. I believe the coco-nut palm at Barbados is affected by an insect pest; but if this is the only deterrent to the cultivation of so useful and so valuable a plant I believe it might be overcome.

The manufacture of "copra," the kernel of the coco-nut dried and cured, has not been taken up in the West Indies; nor has the manufacture of coco-nut oil or coco-nut fibre been established. These industries are chiefly confined to the Pacific Islands, to the Seychelles, to Ceylon, and to countries remote from good markets, from fresh nuts, and where the value of the nuts is below 40*s.* per thousand. Owing to the lower value of coco-nuts in Ceylon, coco-nut oil can be actually manufactured there and shipped and sold in the West Indies at a lower rate than we can make it ourselves. If, by making the nuts into copra, the West Indian planter obtains only some 40*s.* per thousand for them, and if, by making them into oil, he only just clears his expenses, it is manifestly to his interest to dispose of the nuts in the green state, and especially at present prices of 70*s.* per thousand. For the American market the nuts must have the outer husk removed; and latterly it is found more convenient and economical to ship the nuts in a similar state to the English market. In the latter case, the nuts are packed in gunny bags, and forwarded as merchandise instead of as "dunnage."

In the Bahamas, "the Madeira of the United States," the cultivation of tropical fruits, especially pine-apples, bananas, oranges, and coco-nuts, has assumed considerable importance. Under the fostering care of a former governor—now Sir Wm. Robinson, K.C.M.G.—and a system of local boards of agriculture, tobacco, onions, tomatoes, and numerous other small industries, have also been started, which must eventually, in the aggregate, add greatly to the prosperity of these islands. The pine-apple trade of the Bahamas, chiefly confined to the New Providence, is carried on both with England and the United States, a large proportion of which is in canned goods. The coco-nut plantations are confined chiefly to Inagua and islands to the south, whence the nuts are conveniently and easily shipped. At the Turks and Caicos Island in the neighbourhood, now under the Government

of Jamaica, a very praiseworthy and energetic effort is being made by Mr. Llewelyn, the Commissioner, to cultivate oranges, pine-apples, and fibre-plants, which, so far, promises to be well seconded and supported by the inhabitants.

The fruit trade of Jamaica has now become an established industry, which is rapidly being taken up by both European and negro settlers. Nearly the whole of the fruit is shipped to the United States, to the ports of New York, Philadelphia, and Baltimore. Some of the trade is, however, in course of being diverted to New Orleans, which is only within three days of Jamaica, and in close communication with all large centres of industries in the Western States. The fruit trade of Jamaica, inasmuch as it fosters and strengthens other and more permanent industries, is deserving of every encouragement; and it is no doubt with this view the Government has promoted facilities for the employment of contract steamers between Jamaica and the United States, so as to find a ready and expeditious market for the produce. As shown, when discussing the prospects of cacao cultivation in Jamaica, the profits arising from the sales of bananas, for instance, enables planters to establish the land in cacao, and similarly the same facilities are offered for the cultivation of Liberian coffee, spices, india-rubber, and numerous other plants which would otherwise be beyond the reach of persons possessing small means. The present position of the fruit trade in Jamaica will appear from the following table of exports for the year 1882:—

Fruit.	Quantity.	Value.
		£
Bananas	887,370 bunches	88,737
Oranges	35,456,978	33,684
Coco-nuts	2,763,655	10,225
Lime-juice	78,820 gals.	3,941
Pine-apples	8,886 doz.	1,111
Limes	890 bls.	348
Mangoes	150,671	146
Tamarinds	7,696 lbs.	96
Plaintain	20,412	57
Shaddocks	36 bls.	14
Total	—	138,359

The great increase in the value of this trade during the last ten years may be gathered from the fact that in 1873 the export value of fruit shipped from Jamaica was only 8,750*l.* That it will still continue to increase, and that, ultimately, numerous other industries will be promoted by it, is proved by the fact that greater attention is continually being paid to it; and by the increased demand which is arising in the United States and the Dominion of Canada for tropical fruits. These countries possess a prosperous population, nearly double that of the United Kingdom, and fruit of all kinds forms an important element in their daily food.

JAMAICA.

For men with only moderate capital, I know of no industry so promising as this cultivation of fruit, either for its own sake or for the purpose of ultimately establishing other and more permanent cultivations.

The cultivation of spices, such as nutmegs, cinnamon, cloves, black pepper, and vanilla, has also been taken up, not only in Jamaica, but also in Trinidad, Grenada, and St. Vincent. Nutmegs especially do well at Grenada; and with regard to other spices, if they are so successfully and so energetically carried on throughout the West Indies as in the islands above mentioned, we shall have them known in the future, not as the sugar islands, but as the spice islands of the West.

With regard to the yield from nutmeg trees in Jamaica, trees at six years old give a return of about 1,500 to 2,000 nutmegs per annum. With trees, say, 30 feet apart, and allowing one third to be male or barren trees, this would give a return of 1,500 × 30 =45,000 nutmegs per acre. Taking an average of 90 nutmegs to the pound, the return in cash value would be 500 pounds of nutmegs at, say, 2*s.* per pound, equal to 50*l.* per acre.

In the Botanic Gardens, Trinidad, the yield per tree net in the market has been over twenty pounds (at 90 to the pound this would be 1,800 nutmegs) with an average price of 2*s* 2*d.* per pound during the year. The value here per acre is at the rate of 60*l.* per annum.

In both the above instances it is only fair to mention that the calculations have been based on a comparatively small number of trees. The average yield over a large area of, say 40, 50, or 100 acres would be correspondingly lower, but even under any circumstances it is evident that where suitable and favourable circumstances exist, as I believe they do in the West Indies, a nutmeg plantation is likely to be a very successful and remunerative undertaking.

The cardamom, a valuable East Indian spice, has lately been introduced to the West Indies with satisfactory results. It is adapted for cultivation in moist, shady situations, at elevations ranging from 2,000 to 3,500 feet. The plants have much of the appearance of the "wild ginger" of the West Indies, and require little cultivation beyond keeping the ground clear of rank-growing weeds. The return per acre is estimated at the end of three years at about 170 pounds of cardamoms, worth 3*s.* to 4*s.* per pound.

Tobacco, rubber-yielding plants, and numerous medicinal plants are also being introduced and cultivated in the West Indies with marked success. With the valuable aid and by the instrumentality of the Royal Gardens at Kew, the Botanical establishments in the West Indies, and through them the planters in these possessions, are being continually supplied with economic plants of great value and by these means new industries are being founded, which in course of time should have most beneficial influences upon the commercial prosperity of these Islands.

So far tea has not been tried on a commercial scale in the West Indies. I have some five acres of tea under my care, which, being some seven or eight years old, indicates that the climate of Jamaica is admirably suited to the growth of the plant. I estimate that with indentured coolie labour and an experienced tea-planter from Ceylon or India, tea might be grown in the West Indies and placed in the market at a cost not exceeding 7½*d.* or 8*d.* per pound. At the present time very inferior China tea is sold in the West Indies at 4*s.* 6*d.* per pound. Hence there is here a very good opening for a tea industry—if only to supply local demands. I am glad to say that an attempt is likely to be made to grow tea in Jamaica under very favourable circumstances; and as the parish of Portland, with its warm, moist climate and splendid rich valleys approaches so nearly the conditions which obtain in the best tea districts of India, the undertaking promises every hope of success.

Among the newer industries of Jamaica I may mention that of cinchona, or the quinine-yielding trees of commerce.

For the first seeds of cinchona Jamaica is indebted to the Home Government, who, at the recommendation of Sir W. J. Hooker, Director of the Royal Gardens, Kew, sent liberal supplies of seeds of three species direct from Peru and Guayaquil. The industry owes its initiation, on a commercial scale, to Sir John Peter Grant, who established an experimental Government plantation on the Blue Mountains in 1869.

For several years, and indeed up to the close of 1879, cinchona cultivation had not been taken up by private planters. The number of plants grown by private enterprise in the whole Island up to 1880 would probably have not exceeded 900 or 1,000 plants; that is, a number barely sufficient to cover an acre of land. Owing, however, to the favourable results of the sales of cinchona bark grown on the Government plantations during the last three years, and to the facilities afforded by Government in raising and distributing seeds and plants on a large scale, private enterprise has now been largely enlisted in the industry.

As indicating what has been done on the Government plantations, I may mention that up to a recent date they had cost, including all pioneering and experimental work, about 16,000*l.* The returns on the sales of cinchona bark and cinchona seeds and plants have yielded a return of 12,000*l.*, whilst the plantations, as they now stand, have been valued by experienced planters from Ceylon at 20,000*l.*

In my report for the year ending September 30, 1880, I mentioned that the object of the Government in maintaining these plantations was not on account of the pecuniary returns likely to be yielded by them, but for the purpose of showing that cinchona barks of good quality could be successfully grown in Jamaica; and also that cinchona planting, as an enterprise in private hands, possessed all the elements of a sound and remunerative industry.

The sales of Jamaica-grown cinchona bark during the last three years having fully proved both these points, the Government

JAMAICA.

plantations now naturally devote chief attention to the successful introduction and cultivation, on a small scale, of all the newer and richer kinds of cinchona, for the purpose of successfully establishing them in the Island; and also to such necessary experimental and scientific work relating to the industry which, for lack of means or of scientific knowledge, cannot be conveniently undertaken by private enterprise.

As already mentioned, much remains to be done in this respect; and as the plantations as a whole do not contain more than about 180 acres, this will not allow, on an average, more than about five acres for each of the 25 or 30 species, varieties, and forms of cinchona bark now the subject of careful experiment and investigation on these plantations.

In order to test the commercial value of Jamaica-grown bark, no better plan could be followed than to send it, in lots, to the open market, and place it in competition with barks from other countries. That it has so satisfactorily stood this test, and brought in a large return on the outlay, and, moreover, that the results of the sales have induced cinchona planting to be undertaken in the Island by private enterprise with energy and success, are matters for which the Government, no less than the general public, are to be congratulated.

Three years ago the kinds of cinchona bark under cultivation in Jamaica were only three, viz., Cinchona succirubra, Cinchona officinalis, and the so-called Cinchona calisaya, now proved to be identical with Cinchona hybrid or robusta of Ceylon and India.

Since that time, numerous kinds have been introduced which are now the subject of careful experiment to determine the most favourable circumstances of soil, elevation, rainfall, and aspects suitable for their successful cultivation, the best methods for harvesting the bark and inducing the largest formation of alkaloids, as well as determining the simplest and most economical methods for their general treatment and management.

Among the kinds of bark now under experimental cultivation at the Government plantations in Jamaica are :—

Red Barks.—Cinchona succirubra; Cinchona succirubra, var. sub pubescens.

Crown Bark.—Cinchona officinalis: Cinchona officinalis, var. uritusinga; Cinchona officinalis, var. Bonplandiana; Cinchona officinalis, var. crispa; Cinchona officinalis, magnifolia; Cinchona officinalis, pubescens.

Hybrid Bark.—Cinchona hybrid or robusta.

Ledgeriana Bark.—Cinchona Ledgeriana.

Yellow Barks.—Cinchona calisaya; Cinchona calisaya, vera; Cinchona calisaya, var. Josephiana; Cinchona calisaya, var. Javanica; Cinchona calisaya, verde; Cinchona calisaya, morada form.

Grey Barks.—Cinchona Peruviana; Cinchona nitida; Cinchona micrantha.

Carthagena Bark.—Cinchona lancifolia.

Cuprea Bark.—Remija pedunculata ?

The cinchona industry of Jamaica, as indicated above, has now entered upon a practical phase, and plantations are being opened by private parties on a large scale. During the last two years the Government has sold twelve patents or runs of high forest land containing some 5,000 acres, under conditions which involve that, at least, one sixth shall be planted with cinchona at the end of five years.

Besides this, some 2,000 acres — portions of the higher coffee estates suitable for cinchona cultivation — are being gradually opened by their proprietors; so that in a few years valuable and extensive cinchona plantations will be thoroughly established in the Island.

These cinchona plantations in Jamaica will probably remain for many years the only successful cinchona plantations in the New World. No cinchona can be grown in any portion of the United States territory, which is entirely outside the tropics. In all the other British West India Islands there is no suitable land, as far as I am aware, possessing the requisite elevation, soil, and climate for the successful cultivation of cinchona. It is very unlikely to thrive in either British Honduras or British Guiana, and although much has been written and said respecting the systematic cultivation of cinchona in its natural home in the South American States, I have entirely failed, so far, although I have met many men who have travelled through those states, interested in the subject, to hear of any plantation possessing, say, 100 acres systematically established with this valuable tree.

The fact is, that for the successful and remunerative culture of cinchona plants in a new country such a peculiar combination of elevation, soil, and climate is requisite, that there are comparatively few areas wherein all these can possibly exist. Hence, we find that very few tropical countries can successfully enter upon the industry, and of these, so far as my experience goes, only two or three possess in so eminent a degree all the favourable conditions enjoyed by Jamaica.

As confirming this view by independent testimony, I may mention that a Ceylon proprietor and planter, with some 12 years' experience in the cultivation of coffee and cinchona, after carefully inspecting the Jamaica Government plantations, refers to the growth and characteristics of the trees as follows: "I am "perfectly convinced that were the bark of two equal-sized cinchona "trees, one Ceylon the other Jamaica, weighed the Jamaica tree "would outweigh the Ceylon tree considerably: this is particularly "noticeable in young trees. The bark itself has a brighter and "more taking colour, looks richer in quinine, and altogether "healthier. It is generally (copiously) covered with lichen, and the "growth of this I believe to have an effect similar to mossing in de-"veloping the alkaloids. The ready way in which the self-sown "seedlings grow, and the number of them surpass anything I have "seen in Ceylon and prove that the cinchona tree has found a most "suitable home and congenial climate on the Blue Mountains of "Jamaica. The land is self-drained, yet canker in the root, which

JAMAICA.

" destroys such a large proportion of Ceylon seedlings, is hardly " felt, and would not probably be known were the land drained. " The only difficulty I can foresee is labour; if this were removed " (as it easily might be, by importing coolies) I believe Jamaica " would produce more valuable cinchona bark for the acreage than " any country in the world."

The cost of establishing cinchona plantations in Jamaica is estimated at 35*l.* per acre, which includes the purchase of land and all expenses up to the end of the fourth year, when the first crop of bark may be taken. The total yield of the plantation (deducting cost of barking, curing, and shipping expenses) up to the end of the ninth year, will probably be not less than 175*l.* per acre, against a total outlay for planting operations for that period of about 50*l.* per acre.

The estimate of cost is based upon land, at about 5*s.* per acre, and creole labour at existing rates, viz., men, 1*s.* to 1*s.* 4½*d.* per day; women, 10½*d.* to 1*s.* per day. The estimate of return is based on an average of 2*s.* per pound, being obtained for the bark of all ages, which is practically only one half of that actually realised by Jamaica-grown bark during the last three years.

In addition to the experimental cultivation and investigations respecting cinchona plants, an attempt is being made to manufacture cinchona febrifuge in the Island for the purpose of placing this valuable but cheap preparation within reach of Her Majesty's subjects in the West Indies. This local utilisation of the Government cinchona plantation in Jamaica is one which has long been kept in view, and should cinchona febrifuge be successfully and economically manufactured there the plantation will be able to render an additional service in supplying, on the spot, the means for combating sickness and disease, and effectually coping with the scourges of fever which occasionally visit it. " This object, " amongst others, has, I believe, been always in contemplation by " the Home Government in encouraging cinchona planting in the " Colonies; and it is an aim so noble and benevolent that it de- " serves the sympathy and support of all concerned." For, as one writer has well expressed it, " To England, with her numerous " and extensive Colonial possessions, cinchona bark is simply price- " less; and it is not too much to say that if portions of her tropical " empire are upheld by the bayonet, the arm that wields the weapon " would be nerveless but for cinchona bark and its active prin- " ciples."

At the small but beautiful island of Montserrat, in the Leeward Islands, which for a long time was in a languishing condition, new life and energy has been infused by the successful issue of an industry which a few years ago was confined to the desultory and spasmodic efforts of a few negroes. I refer to the lime-juice plantations and manufactory so ably and systematically established at Montserrat by the Messrs. Sturge. And I would here add that the example of the Messrs. Sturge, not only in selecting and systemising the cultivation of a minor West Indian product, but in conferring great benefits upon the locality generally, deserves the

warmest commendation. It is a somewhat remarkable fact that while at the time the Messrs. Sturge took up the cultivation of limes at Montserrat in 1868, "the whole of the northern portion of the Island had gone out of cultivation, and the export of sugar had gradually fallen from some 2,700*l.* hogsheads to 950 hogsheads, while the white population had declined to about 240 persons, the effects produced by the energy and example of the Messrs. Sturge have infused new life and energy to other industries. For instance, the cultivation of sugar has been greatly extended and improved of late years, and the exports have been increased to some 2,500 hogsheads; that is, nearly to what they were a hundred years ago, when 7,000 slaves were kept on the island.

The lime plantations of the Montserrat Company occupy about 1,000 acres, and contain about 200,000 trees of all ages. The export of lime juice, both crude and concentrated, is now nearly 100,000 gallons per annum.

The lime tree (*Citrus limetta*), a member of the orange family, grows well in all the West India Islands. It requires a light, loamy and somewhat stony soil, and an elevation depending upon latitude, from sea level up to 500 feet. The trees are planted at 15 feet apart, giving about 200 trees per acre. They come into bearing in about six or seven years, but light crops are often gathered from trees at five years. To ensure large and permanent crops the trees require to be regularly pruned, and to be kept free from all parasitic growths, such as Loranthus, &c. They are also greatly benefited by tillage; that is, loosening of the soil around the roots, and being kept free from grass and weeds.

The annual mean temperature of Montserrat at sea-level is given at 78° F., and the annual rainfall at 59 inches. These conditions are evidently those most suitable for the successful cultivation of lime trees, for at Montserrat the lime orchards present a most beautiful sight.

With regard to the manufacture and preparation of lime juice I cannot do better than quote the following description which appeared in the "Pharmaceutical Journal" in January last (3rd Series, No. 657, p. 606):—

"In Montserrat the lime fruit harvest is heaviest from September to January, but a good supply of fruit is yielded throughout the whole year. Here, where the lime tree is specially cultivated for the sake of the juice, the work is done in a systematic manner with suitable machinery. The fruit, after collection, is taken to two central factories, where it is sliced by water power, and then squeezed in huge wooden presses, the juice being run into puncheons and quickly bunged up. This is a most important point in preparing the juice in a tropical climate, for if exposed it would rapidly decompose. I am also informed that the choicest fruit is alone used, and that only about two thirds of the juice is pressed out, thus ensuring greater freedom from mucilaginous and pulpy matter. The further

JAMAICA. pressings, together with the juice of unsound fruit, is evaporated to the consistence of treacle, and sent over to this country for the manufacture of citric acid.

"It is chiefly owing to these precautions that Montserrat lime juice is so much superior to that produced in Jamaica and elsewhere, where no care or supervision is exercised in its preparation."

It might not, for many reasons, be advisable to follow the example of the Montserrat Lime Juice Company as regards this particular industry, for the demand for lime juice is somewhat limited and precarious, but with so many other West Indian industries ready at hand there can be little difficulty in founding hundreds of industries as successful and as promising as that of the Montserrat Lime Juice Company.

Turning now to British Honduras, which is closely connected with the West India Islands as being a dependency of Jamaica, I may mention that I lately had the pleasure of visiting it, at the request of the Local Government, for the purpose of inquiring into its "flora, and the natural resources of its soil." My official report has lately been completed and presented, and as, probably, it will shortly be published, I need not dwell now at any particular length on the subjects treated therein.

By permission of Colonel Sir Robert W. Harley, the present Administrator of British Honduras, I am, however, enabled to lay before this meeting many interesting facts connected with the country, which I believe will place this hitherto much maligned and much neglected Colony in a new and not unfavourable light.

Up to a recent date British Honduras was merely a settlement for the purpose of cutting logwood and mahogany, and it was not until 1862 that it was raised to the dignity and importance of a British Colony.

Speaking of the want of accurate scientific knowledge of the natural resources and capabilities of British Honduras, the "Colonial Guardian" published at Belize, recently remarked:—

"We have for a sufficiently long period lived without a knowledge of the capabilities of about three fourths, and in total ignorance of even the physical configuration of more than one-half, of the Colony. We have been willing quietly to allow, without a contradictory murmur, the climate and soil of British Honduras to be slandered, until the civilised world has come to look on her as a vast pestiferous swamp, unworthy the habitation of civilised man. So long as mahogany was plentiful and brought good prices, little did the more weathly colonists reck whether this continuous slandering of her soil barred the way to colonisation. But fortunately mahogany is failing, and dire necessity is driving them to think of agriculture and of its only hope of development –immigration, as the true foundation of her progress. But the long lethargy has borne evil fruits, and British Honduras is only thought of in Europe as another European's grave not dissimilar to the pestilential coast of Western Africa. To disabuse the

world of this erroneous opinion will be no easy task, unless we can lay before it substantial proofs of our statements."

British Honduras contains an area of 7,562 square miles, that is more than four times the size of Trinidad, nearly twice the size of Jamaica, and almost equal to that of the whole of the British West India Islands proper put together. A large portion of the country is practically unknown, but excluding the low swampy ground on the cays and some portions of the coast, and allowing a large proportion of the interior rocky country as being unfit for cultivation, there remain extensive areas of magnificent virgin soils in British Honduras, equal, if not superior, to anything else in the West Indies. As shown on the map, British Honduras has a seaboard of about 250 miles, stretching from the River Hondu on the north, abutting on Yucatan and Mexico, to the River Sarstoon on the south, bordering on the Republic of Guatemala. In general, the land rises from the sea-coast in a gentle slope towards the west, intersected by numerous deep and navigable rivers until it meets, on the frontier line, the dividing mountain zone of Central America.

In the south, however, the Cockscomb Mountains and others are within some 40 miles of the sea, and hence the country here is greatly diversified with hills and valleys, most of which are practically unexplored. A few years ago (1878) Mr. Fowler, the Colonial Secretary of British Honduras, made a journey through the south-western portion of the Colony, of which an interesting account is given in "Papers relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions" presented to Parliament: [C.–2598] of 1880. Mr. Fowler went up the Belize River as far as the western frontier, and then made an oblique cut across the country at the back of the Cockscomb Mountains, eventually reaching the coast at Deep River. The country traversed "proved to be a succession of valleys "and hills from 1,200 to 3,000 feet above sea level. The westerly "portion was an open, undulating, grassy country forming magnifi- "cent pasturage lands. Towards the coast it was all forest, full of "valuable timber. No inhabitants were seen, but ancient Indian "ruins consisting of large stone buildings were discovered. The "soil generally was rich, but a few rugged spots were encountered."

Without anticipating in the least degree the information contained in my official report, I may mention that I travelled some 900 to 1,000 miles in the Colony, and, thanks to the courtesy of the Government and to the kindness and hospitality I everywhere received, I was enabled to accomplish the objects of my visit under very favourable circumstances. My first journey was through the settlements to the south of Belize, in which I had the privilege of being accompanied by Captain Marriner, chief of the local police, who, I greatly regret to find, has since lost his life on the River Hondu.

Besides several large sugar estates in good order, numerous coco-nut and banana plantations are being established along the banks of the rivers to the south, many of them by small local companies with capitals ranging from 2,000*l.* to 5,000*l.* Steamers

JAMAICA. from New Orleans periodically call at the principal settlements, and take off the produce, paying high rates in cash as soon as deposited on board.

One of the most interesting spots visited in this journey was the Toledo settlement, established several years ago by settlers from the Southern States of America. About 14 families came here and took up their quarters in the virgin forest, with little or no capital. But, by undaunted courage and perseverance in overcoming the first difficulties, they have succeeded in establishing comfortable homesteads, and in placing under cultivation, chiefly in sugar-cane, some 600 acres of land. The results of this experiment are in many respects very suggestive. Although, in tropical countries as a rule and especially, as in this case, at sea-level, the white man is not suited for hard, labourious work in the sun, and it is better for him to possess capital and to employ negroes and coolies, yet it speaks well for the climate of British Honduras that the white settlers at the Toledo settlement, which is by no means exceptionally placed, should by their own hands have turned a wild tropical forest into a number of rich and prosperous plantations. Most of the settlers, at present, grow sugar-cane, and manufacture the produce into common Muscovado sugar in open pans. The quality of the sugar is exceptionally good, most of which is sold locally at prices ranging from 5 to 6 cents. per pound.

I returned from the southern settlements deeply impressed with the vast natural resources of the country, and the great future which lies before it when properly opened.

I next visited the central and western districts of the Colony. This country generally, with the exception of a few isolated ranges, rises so very gradually, from the sea coast to the interior, that points on the western frontier nearly one hundred miles from the coast, are only 300 feet high. This low, gently sloping land is also plentifully intersected by deep navigable rivers which flow slowly towards the sea. Along the banks of these rivers the characteristics of the soil and climate were of a most favourable character, and the vegetation essentially tropical and luxuriant. On further acquaintance with the interior portions of the country I found that the alluvial deposits along the river banks, extending some five or six, or, in some instances, some ten miles on each side contained chiefly the rich valuable soils of the Colony. Beyond these were "broken lands" and "pine ridges."

The most important as well as the richest river valley in the Colony is that of the Old River, sometimes called the Belize River. This extends in a wide sinuous course from the town of Belize at the sea coast to the western frontier. In the upper portions, the valley widens into broad expanses of rich fertile plains covered by cohune palm, in some cases 30 or 40 miles in breadth. I carefully examined this district, and worked my way to the frontier station—the Cayo—near which a coffee plantation has recently been established. With the exception of some six sugar estates, and the same number of banana plantations, this coffee

plantation is the only attempt hitherto made to establish a systematic course of culture in the Colony, the bulk of the people being employed, and the chief trade of the Colony depending upon mahogany and logwood cutting, which, when good prices are ruling, are apparently very remunerative industries.

In the forests of the western districts I found the rubber-tree of Central America (Castillor elastica) very abundant. This tree (a member of the breadfruit family) is specially suitable for cultivation on account of its preferring a loamy, sandy soil; and being a deep feeder it might be utilised as a shade tree in cultivated areas with great advantage. Trees at ten years old yield from four to seven pounds of rubber, which is valued at from 2*s*. 3*d*. to 3*s*. per pound. If carefully managed, the trees can be tapped every three or four years.

Another interesting plant found wild in these forests, was the indigenous cacao of Central America: this differed from all kinds I had met previously. After careful inquiry, I found that it was the Tampasco cacao of the Atlantic slopes, and identical with the celebrated Socunusco cacao of the Pacific coast. In habit and character the trees approach those of the Cacao Criollo, and an examination of the pods, which are of a golden-yellow colour, led me to the conclusion that this Tampasco, or "Socunusco" cacao, is the yellow form of the celebrated "Caracas" cacao. Should such prove to be the case, there is little doubt that this yellow variety will prove as much superior to the red Caracas form, as the yellow Forastero does to the red (Trinidad) cacao.

Many other interesting plants of timber and dye woods, as well as of plants of medicinal and economic value, were met, many of which I have no doubt are capable of being utilised both in British Honduras and in other British possessions.

With regard to the climate of British Honduras, to which I have already made a passing reference, there is no doubt in my mind that it has been greatly maligned. Belize, the capital, being surrounded by mangrove swamps, "is possibly the least "healthy part of the Colony." On the gradually rising ground of the interior the climate is equal, if not superior, to most tropical countries. Visitations of fever appear to be of rare occurrence, and owing to the level character of the country, the cool sea-breezes—especially those from the north-east—sweep uninterruptedly over it, entirely preventing the accumulation of miasmatic influences, so prevalent in other countries similarly situated.

That the legislature of British Honduras has a firm belief in the healthiness of the Colony is shown by the fact that a local ordinance, referring to the registration of medical practitioners, has a preamble somewhat as follows: "Whereas, owing to the salu-"briousness of the climate of British Honduras, there are few "inducements for medical men to settle therein, it is hereby "enacted," &c., &c.

For experienced planters, who have already lived in tropical countries, and especially in the East, British Honduras offers inducements superior, I believe, to those of most British Colonies.

JAMAICA.

There are thousands of acres of magnificent land offered by Government at an upset price of a dollar an acre, capable of growing nearly every tropical product. Some of these lands are either near the banks of rivers, with easy communication with the coast, or on the coast itself. There is an abundant market for bananas, plantains, coco-nuts, oranges, pine-apples, and all tropical fruits in demand in America, and regular direct communication, by means of mail and other steamers, with both England and the States. For the cultivation of sugar-cane, coffee, tea, cacao, spices, tobacco, vanilla, and rice, British Honduras offers special advantages. The chief drawbacks to the advancement of the Colony are: (1) The scarcity and somewhat precarious nature of the labour supply, and (2) the want of cheap and effective communication with the rich back lands of the interior. The first of these drawbacks may in a great measure be overcome by the establishment of an effective system of coolie immigration, similar to that in force in Demerara, Trinidad, Jamaica, and more recently in Grenada. Coolies might be obtained from India at the rate of 15*l.* per head, of which the repayment would be spread over the five years during which the engagement lasts. During this time, the wages would be fixed at the rate of 1*s.* per diem, all things included. For light field work in the tropics the coolie is an invaluable worker. Demerara and Trinidad without coolies would never have attained to their present prosperous condition; and what has been done in these Colonies with coolies may likewise be done in British Honduras, which, from the richness of its natural resources, would eventually become one of the most prosperous British possessions in the West Indies.

For reaching the fine rich virgin lands on the upper portions of the Sibun and Belize rivers, as well as those previously described in the South, a system of cheap and light railways might be constructed at a cost not exceeding 100,000*l.*

The Colony is, at present, in a sound financial condition, and there should be no difficulty, as suggested by Mr. Fowler, in raising the above-mentioned sum in England on loan, which, it may be observed, is only a little over two years' income.

Time will forbid my entering more fully upon the numberless resources of our West Indian possessions, or describe them so completely and so abundantly as they deserve. I cannot, however, close this brief and, I fear, very incomplete account of what is being done, or capable of being done, in the West Indies without expressing confidence in the great future which lies before them, and also the hope that their abundant latent wealth will be so expanded and developed as to afford a prosperous outlet for English capital and enterprise, now too often diverted and absorbed in fruitless operations in foreign states.

TURKS ISLANDS.

No. 16.

The OFFICER Administering the GOVERNMENT of JAMAICA to the Right Hon. the EARL OF DERBY.

King's House, Jamaica,
April 28, 1883.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to forward to your Lordship the enclosed copy of the Blue Book of Turks Islands for the year 1882, together with a report of the Commissioner on the same.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CLARKE.

The Right Hon.
The Earl of Derby,
&c. &c.

BLUE BOOK REPORT for TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The revenue collected during the year from the regular sources of duties amounted to 7,140*l.* 15*s.* 7*d.*, and the expenditure on the several public services amounted to 5,356*l.* 12*s.* 7*d.*; but to this must be added a claim of about 500*l.* for mail services, still sub judice, leaving an approximate excess of revenue over expenditure during the year of about 1,200*l.*

2. The usual several items of revenue estimated for, yielded 818*l.* in excess of the average; of which sum 633*l.* is for Royalty on salt and its collateral light dues.

3. The general expenditure proper was lower than the average, and nearly 1,000*l.* below the estimate; owing principally to a change in the mail service, by which a saving was effected.

4. There is no public debt; but, on the contrary, the Dependency funded during the year the sum of 500*l.* of the surplus revenue of the year 1881.

Imports and Exports.

5. The following comparative tables of exports and imports, &c. show the trade transactions for the year:—

VALUE of EXPORTS of DOMESTIC PRODUCE and MANUFACTURES in the years 1880, 1881, and 1882.

Articles.	1880.	1881.	1882.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Salt - - - -	20,155 14 11	22,908 10 2	21,095 6 5
Cave earth - - -	2,952 0 6	697 13 0	1,205 12 8
Sponge - - - -	—	429 15 11	720 14 0
Fresh fruit - - -	—	—	13 12 0
Straw, brazilletto, &c. - -	1,645 7 10	280 0 0	296 2
Totals - -	24,753 3 3	24,315 19 1	23,331 7 6

TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS.

VALUE of IMPORTS for the years 1880, 1881, and 1882.

—	1880.	1881.	1882.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Imports - - -	24,729 2 5	27,054 4 6	26,822 11 3

QUANTITY of SALT exported from each Port for the years 1880, 1881, and 1882.

Ports.	1880.	1881.	1882.
Grand Turk - -	452,599	593,626	659,225
Salt Cay - - -	192,817	478,660	476,530
Cockburn Harbour -	289,990	358,610	406,327
Total bushels -	935,406	1,430,896	1,542,082

Salt in the Colony on 31st December 1878 - 85,000 bushels.
" " " 1879 - 1,500 "
" " " 1880 - 700,000 "
" " " 1881 - 1,000,000 "
" " " 1882 - 650,000 "

RAINFALL at GRAND TURK, SALT CAY, COCKBURN HARBOUR, and KEW for each month of the year 1882.

Months.	Grand Turk.	Salt Cay.	Cockburn Harbour.	Kew.
January - - -	·62	·80	1·00	No return.
February - -	2·02	1·01	—	"
March - - -	1·08	1·18	·68	"
April - - -	·92	·52	·30	"
May - - -	2·93	2·30	3·17	"
June - - -	·39	·72	·17	"
July - - -	·68	1·34	·37	"
August - - -	·81	·61	2·13	2·62
September - -	3·34	3·56	2·56	5·66
October - - -	2·22	2·65	1·84	9·00
November - -	1·31	·76	2·03	5·19
December - -	2·65	2·59	·72	4·91
Total - -	18·97	18·04	14·97	27·38

RETURN of the NUMBER and CLASS of VESSELS that passed the LIGHT-HOUSE at GRAND TURK by daylight in 1882.

War Vessels.	Steamers.	Ships.	Barques.	Barkantines.	Brigs.	Brigantines.	Three-masted Schooners.	Schooners.	Total.
1	22	—	44	24	8	160	38	98	395

SCHEDULE of RECEIPTS and EXPENDITURE of the PUBLIC REVENUE for the year 1882, in comparison with the preceding year 1881.

Imports.	1881. £	s.	d.	1882. £	s.	d.
Alcohol	10	12	0	0	8	0
Ale, porter, cider, &c.	23	8	1	24	18	0
Bay water	14	5	0	14	9	6
Beans and peas	8	11	6	7	1	8
Bread	27	13	4	31	2	10
Butter	70	12	2	37	1	7
Candles	8	11	10	4	4	5
Cattle and Calves	3	15	0	3	2	6
Cheese	16	13	7	20	3	5
Chocolate	6	0	0	8	0	1
Cigars	7	18	0	7	19	6
Cocoa	0	2	10	—		
Coffee	12	17	10	21	16	6
Cordage	4	11	6	8	6	5
Cordials	1	17	6	1	2	6
Corn	12	7	0	19	18	0
Fish, dried and pickled	64	18	7	32	17	9
Flour, wheat	489	13	2	516	11	7
Flour, rye, and corn meal	57	6	9	88	9	9
Horses	6	0	0	20	0	0
Lard	53	0	5	47	9	5
Lumber and shingles	69	15	6	59	12	10
Meat, salted and cured	231	14	8	107	2	0
Molasses, syrup, and honey	61	3	10	73	10	4
Oils	33	14	3	57	13	11
Paint in oil	10	4	2	12	10	0
Pitch, tar, and rosin	2	16	0	3	6	0
Raisins, currants, and figs	5	1	5	4	16	0
Rice	69	0	4	75	17	11
Rum, brandy, gin, &c.	701	4	4	451	7	5
Sheep and goats	1	4	0	0	3	0
Soap	32	18	2	12	3	0
Spirits, turpentine	1	0	6	0	1	0
Sugar	238	10	7	173	18	11
Swine	2	3	8	0	6	0
Tea	17	6	2	22	0	9
Tobacco	43	0	7	34	5	10
Wine	19	3	8	38	13	7
Ad valorem duties	876	4	1	934	15	10
	3,317	2	0	2,977	7	9

Imports.	1881. £ s. d.	1882. £ s. d.
Other Sources of Revenue.		
Royalty of 10 per cent. ad valorem on salt exported: in 1881—1,430,896 bushels; in 1882—1,542,082 bushels	2,235 17 11	2,409 12 2
Light duties	657 15 8	698 10 0
Auction duties	91 12 11	30 19 3
Fines from Supreme and Police Courts	88 18 3	89 5 9
Fees of office	165 15 4	97 17 11
Postage	88 19 0	127 5 1
Post Office Money Order commissions	5 14 7	12 6 7
Liquor licenses	75 0 0	75 0 0
Wine „	58 0 0	58 0 0
Dog Tax	17 9 6	18 11 6
Sales Crown land	3 3 6	1 19 9
Lease „ „	41 7 1	39 13 2
Public bank—profits from 1st July 1881 to 30th June 1882	59 7 6	—
Receipt from Imperial Post Office	300 0 0	300 0 0
Wharfage and storage	64 11 8	43 11 9
Miscellaneous Sales Government property, &c.	157 8 8	160 14 11
Special	131 5 9	366 0 8
	4,242 7 4	4,529 8 6
Recapitulation.		
Imports	3,317 2 0	2,977 7 9
Other sources	4,242 7 4	4,529 8 6
	7,559 9 4	7,506 16 3
Balance from 1880 and 1881	832 14 6	1,893 7 6
	8,392 3 10	9,400 3 9
Expenditure for 1881 and 1882	6,498 16 4	7,165 9 1
Balance for 1882 and 1883	1,893 7 6	2,234 14 8

6. The year passed without the occurrence of a wreck loaded with a general cargo, so average importations are not affected by the accidental bringing into the Colony of more of any particular article than is usually consumed, with which the wrecked vessel might be loaded.

7. There is little variation in the several items of import duties. Flour yielded a little more than usual, and spirits rather less; this latter circumstance being due to large importations having been made in the previous year, when it was known that the mail boat would shortly cease running to St. Thomas, from which place the supply of spirits has hitherto been imported; and so stocks were laid in.

8. The quantity of salt exported was larger than for some years; a great impetus being given to the fish salt trade with Canada in November and December, just after the mail steamer from Halifax began calling here regularly; and I hope this outlet for salt will be increased.

9. The price obtained for the salt was, however, very low, and barely remunerative. A stock, equal to half the average demand

of twelve months, was left on hand on the 31st December, which surplus, I am afraid, will tend to keep the price down during the year.

10. The export of sponge increased, owing, in some degree, to the protracted draught which prevented the settlers at the Caicos from getting any food crops from their fields, and also owing to the absence of any wrecks there; which two circumstances combined forced the men to go out sponging, a dirty disagreeable business, which they do not like, and take up only as a last resort to earn a living.

11. Only two small cargoes of cave earth were shipped last year; but the cause of this was the shipping place required some improvements which have now been carried out, and a larger export will be made this year.

12. As bearing on Trade and Commerce, though not specially to these Islands, I may mention that the number of sailing vessels passing through this passage was much smaller than any year since I have kept a record, especially noticeable in the smaller class of vessels. In 1879 the total number signalled was 479, of which 201 were schooners, and only 28 barks and barkentines. In 1882 the total was 395 of which only 98 were schooners, with 68 barks and barkentines; tending to confirm, what I believe is generally admitted, that small vessels do not pay to run, and steamers are driving them off the sea.

Shipping.

13. The total tonnage of vessels arriving in ballast was 33,407, against 31,303 in the previous year; and one novel feature was the arrival here of 28 vessels of a large class direct from the United States, as against none in the previous year. This was caused by the absence of employment for sailing vessels in the United States, and the difficulty experienced of chartering in the West Indies, the declining number of ships that take freights there, and seek freight home again. This has caused the rate of freight on salt to be higher.

Public Works.

14. The only special work undertaken was the rebuilding entirely of an abutment at Deans Dock, Salt Cay, of which the foundations had given way from the action of the sea.

15. The lighthouse, the keeper's house, the public schools, and court house, and the custom house were painted; and the roads, tanks and wells, were repaired and kept in good order.

16. The improvements and new works, to be defrayed from the surplus revenue of 1881, were not actively proceeded with, as it was late in the year before the sanction of the Secretary of State was received for these works, and so only the school house and tank at Salt Cay were repaired.

TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS.

17. The purchase of the public wharf and customs warehouse, at Grand Turk was, however, arranged for 300*l.*, and the lumber was imported for entirely renewing the wharf.

18. This latter work has now (March 1883) been finished, and the market shed and other works are advancing towards completion.

19. Many works have been also carried out with the fund, raised by a special tax beyond the royalty, upon the salt shipped, for the improvement of salt ponds, especially at Salt Cay, where a tunnel of solid masonry, stretching into the sea, costing nearly 115*l.*, has been built so as to let the water from the sea into the pond without bringing in at the same time quantities of sand, which formerly gradually choked up the canal. This work has been found to be most effective, and saves the proprietors 18*l.* per annum heretofore paid to a contractor for cleaning out the canal, when sea water was wanted, which is now unnecessary, as the tunnel door has only to be opened, at a cost of a few shillings. An embankment round the reservoir at Salt Cay, which the salt pond proprietors have been striving to get for 30 years, has at last been commenced, and by the aid of the salt pond improvement fund, many other works will be carried out by degrees, which will improve the salt ponds most materially. The law passed in 1879, under which this fund is raised, has a duration clause, and will expire in August 1884; but the proprietors, seeing its advantages, are unanimous in wishing for its continuance.

Legislation.

20. An Ordinance "To promote general vaccination" was passed, as owing to the proximity to, and frequent intercourse with, St. Domingo, where small-pox is so often prevalent, it is very necessary to have a strict vaccination law here.

21. The only other Ordinance passed of any consequence, is one that provides "For the protection of cultivated and enclosed lands "against the trespass and depredations of stray cattle and other "animals," without which law it would have been impossible to undertake any planting at the Caicos, an industry recently started with every prospect of success.

Civil Establishment.

22. No permanent change has been made in the civil list; but Mr. Anderson, Judge of the Supreme Court and ex officio auditor, left the Dependency on the 1st June to act as a District Court Judge in Jamaica, and is still absent. Mr. Rae, the Assistant Commissioner at Cockburn Harbour, is acting for Mr. Anderson, and Mr. Stamers is acting for Mr. Rae.

Pensions.

23. Two pensioners died in the first month of the year by which 116*l.* 18*s.* per annum lapsed. A constable was, however, put on in April, at the rate of 10*l.* 14*s.* 8*d.* per annum, so that the net decrease was only 94*l.* 15*s.* 3*d.*

Consuls.

24. Mr. U. K. Sawyer arrived here in August as Consul for the United States, the duties of which office here had been performed by the Vice Consul since the death of Mr. Van Wyck in September 1880.

Coins.

25. The want of any smaller change than a threepenny piece (except a few $1\frac{1}{2}d.$ and $2d.$ bits) was much felt by the poorer classes, so the circulation of nickel coins of Jamaica of the values of $1d.$, $\frac{1}{2}d.$ and $\frac{1}{4}d.$, has been much appreciated, and found a great convenience.

26. Forty-nine pounds worth has been issued from the Treasury and is certainly not too much. The people fell into the use of them very readily, and you can now buy halfpennyworth and pennyworth of many articles of which formerly the smallest quantity sold was $1\frac{1}{2}d.$ worth.

Postal and Mail Services.

27. The arrangement entered into with the Atlas S. S. Co. for conveying the mails viâ Inagua by a small branch steamer for a thousand pounds per annum, was not found to work satisfactorily, and was consequently determined.

28. Mr. Cunard, who owns the line of steamers running monthly between Halifax, Bermuda, and Jamaica, was again asked to allow his vessels to call at Turks Islands, both going north and south, so as to land the mails, and establish direct steam communication between Jamaica and the Dependency. This he has now consented to do for a sum of eight hundred pounds per annum, and there is no doubt that the service, which is the one I have been trying to secure for three years, is an excellent one for this little Depennency. It gives direct mail service with England and Jamaica every four weeks; and will lead, I believe, to an increase of trade with the Dominion of Canada in fish salt.

Agriculture.

29. Last year I reported that an attempt was about to be made to encourage agriculture at the Caicos Islands, especially on North Caicos, at a settlement known as Kew, which had been abandoned for forty years.

30. With this object the Government engaged the services of a young man in Jamaica, Mr. C. H. Plummer, who had practical agricultural experience and botanical tastes, as instructor in agriculture and Government agent to reside at Kew, and look after the Crown lands, on which the people had all squatted, whilst at the same time he was to instruct the inhabitants as to what, how, and when to plant, &c.

31. Mr. Plummer took charge on the 1st August, and his experiments have proved that the soil on North Caicos is capable

TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS.

of growing nearly any tropical fruit that is planted, whilst at the same time tomatoes, potatoes, and onions will thrive as well here as in Bermuda.

32. The inhabitants, who were all squatters, have been accepted as tenants on trial for seven years, paying a small annual rental, taken on account of purchase money, which, with other conditions as to cultivation, &c., will entitle them to a grant for their lots, 25 acres, at the end of that period.

33. In that time it will be seen whether a tenant is really an industrious man, and if not, the Government will have the right to refuse him his grant, and to determine the tenancy.

34. The terms have been generally accepted as most fair, and reasonable; and the specimens of fruit and vegetables already grown have caused some inquiry to be made by persons in Bermuda who wish to obtain land, and it may be fairly said the prospects of this new industry are, to-day, most encouraging.

General Remarks.

35. His Excellency Sir Anthony Musgrave visited the Dependency in March in Her Majesty's ship "Tenedos," and remained here a few days.

36. The export trade of the Dependency in salt was large, and the public revenue was consequently good; but the price obtained by the merchants was low; for which, however, they are themselves in some measure to blame. Being without capital, they are all anxious, and in some instances forced to sell their salt, which they do by under selling each other to get the preference.

37. The borrowers from the public bank paid about 450*l.* of their debts, and this, I presume, came out of the profits of salt raking, of which the quantity gathered was large, owing to fine weather, the rainfall during the whole year being only 18 inches against an average of 25.

38. The general health of the Islands was good, and owing to the demand for salt the labourers were kept employed here, and fewer than usual had to leave for San Domingo seeking work.

39. The future prospect of these Islands is not so low as many here try to believe. Salt is an article of commerce for which there always will be a sale, the only question being whether its market value abroad will pay the cost of raking it here. I see no reason to doubt this, as I hope the trade will get over the depression of low prices, from which it is now suffering, and the most trifling rise in the price per bushel makes a great difference on a crop of a million and a half bushels.

(Signed) R. B. LLEWELYN,
Commissioner.

Commissioner's Office,
4th April 1883.

BRITISH GUIANA.

No. 17.

Governor Sir H. T. IRVING, K.C.M.G., to the Right Hon. the EARL OF DERBY.

Government House, Georgetown, Demerara,
MY LORD, May 23, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to transmit for your Lordship's information copy of the Blue Book of British Guiana for the year 1882, accompanied by the report of Mr. F. W. Collier, Acting Assistant Government Secretary, under whose immediate supervision this book has been compiled.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY T. IRVING,
Governor.

The Right Hon.
The Earl of Derby,
&c. &c. &c.

REPORT on the results shown in the BLUE BOOK, 1882.

Taxes and Duties.

1. The only material alteration under this head was the increase of the *ad valorem* import duty from 5*l.* to 10*l.* for every 100*l.* value. This increase of taxation was imposed by the Combined Court at the Session in June 1882, to be levied from 1st July in that year until 1st July 1883, and it was estimated by the Committee of Ways and Means that with such increase a revenue of $935,000 would be derived from import duties. The revenue actually derived from this source was $1,015,679, or 211,600*l.*

Revenue.

2. The Colonial revenue for the year 1882 was 458,694*l.* 7*s.* 7*d.* an increase of 55,448*l.* 17*s.* 11½*d.* on the revenue of 1881. A comparison of the figures for the last two years shows an increase under every head of revenue except two. Under the following heads there were large increases, viz.:—

	£
Import duties - - - -	27,843
Wine and spirit duties - - -	12,137
Excise duty on rum - - -	6,400
Establishments under Government -	3,252
Beacon and tonnage dues - -	2,370

BRITISH GUIANA.

Import duties.—The increase under import duties arises from the advance from 1st July of the *ad valorem* duty from 5 per cent. to 10 per cent., also from increased importations of duty paying goods.

Wine and Spirit Duties.—The difference under this head is partly attributable to the revenue finding its level again after being seriously disturbed by certain speculative importations in 1880 of Tarragona wine, consequent on the reduction in the preceding year on the duty of light wines. These importations were checked by the re-arrangement of the tariff in 1881. The fluctuation of the revenue caused by these changes will be seen at a glance from the following figures :—

——	1875.	1876.	1877.	1878.
Revenue before reduction of duty -	£ 40,765	£ 44,083	£ 47,095	£ 44,216

——	1879.	1880.	1881.	1882.
Revenue after reduction of duty -	£ 38,228	£ 45,881	£ 30,695	£ 42,832

Rum Duties.—The increase under this head is caused by a greater consumption of duty paid rum, and may also be partially due to the operation of the legislation of 1880 for the prevention of smuggling.

The increases under the heads of Beacon and Tonnage dues and Miscellaneous receipts from Government Departments are attributable to improvement in trade.

The two sources of revenue which exhibit a casual decrease are :—

	£
Taxes fixed by law - - -	1,983
Retail spirit licences - - -	567

Expenditure.

3. The total Colonial expenditure anounted to 428,971*l.* 9*s.* 4½*d.* and was 7,884*l.* 7*s.* 4*d.* more than the expenditure of 1881.

The following are the principal items of increase or decrease :—

Public Debt.—An increase of 10,941*l.* 10*s.* appears under this head, and is caused by amounts required for Sinking Funds and Interest which had not been previously provided for being now set aside for these purposes.

Immigration.—The decrease of 5,873*l.* 4*s.* 11*d.* under this head is due to the discontinuance of immigration from Madeira, and to a decrease of 791 in the number of East Indian immigrants introduced into the Colony.

Works and Buildings.—This item exhibits a decrease of 4,881*l.* 15*s.* 2*d.* due to expenditure being curtailed in view of the necessity found to exist for reducing the total expenditure of the Colony.

Roads and Bridges.—An increase of 3,718*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* appears under this head, occasioned by advances from the general revenue for road repairs. These advances are presumably recoverable from the proprietors responsible for such repairs.

LOCAL REVENUES.

4. *Georgetown.*—The revenue raised for municipal purposes in the city of Georgetown amounted to 43,669*l.* 16*s.* 1½*d.*, as compared with 43,712*l.* 15*s.* 10*d.* in 1881. The house-tax levied during the year was at the rate of two per centum on the appraised value, and yielded 24,206*l.* Market fees yielded 4,324*l.* and water service 2,706*l.*

The expenditure during the year was 45,947*l.* 9*s.*, an increase of 3,830*l.* 18*s.* on the expenditure of 1881. The cost of labour and sanitary superintendance was 6,211*l.*; the other large items of expenditure were 8,532*l.* (loans repaid) and 4,980*l.* (interest account).

5. *New Amsterdam.*—The revenue of the town of New Amsterdam amounted to 8,380*l.* 16*s.* 11½*d.* It was chiefly derived from the following sources:—

	£
Taxes on town property—1½ per centum -	2,587
Market fees and rent of shops - -	1,263
Loan under Ordinance 3 of 1880, for the completion of the waterworks - -	3,125

The expenditure amounted to 8,158*l.* 4*s.* 1*d.*, and the following were the principal items:—

	£
Maintaining roads, bridges, and drainage -	1,919
Waterworks establishment - -	1,153
„ loan repaid - - -	2,766
Salaries of town officials - - -	1,390

6. *Villages.*—The revenue of the 31 incorporated villages (including a sum of 3,055*l.* 8*s.* 7*d.* due by ratepayers at the close of the year) amounted in the aggregate to 8,682*l.* 5*s.*, showing an increase of 766*l.* 1*s.* 9½*d.* over the revenue of 1881.

BRITISH GUIANA.

The expenditure amounting to 7,067*l.* 3*s.* 9½*d.* was as follows:—

	£.	*s.*	*d.*
Drainage - - -	2,780	14	2½
Roads, dams, and bridges -	1,168	7	8
Salaries, contingencies, and other expenses - - -	2,493	1	11
Government loan repaid - -	625	0	0
	7,067	3	9½

Compared with the expenditure of 1881 there was an increase of 2,661*l.* 2*s.* 2*d.*

The liabilities of the villages on 31st December were as follows:—

	£.	*s.*	*d.*
Due on Government loan - -	19,511	10	10
„ other debts - -	2,967	17	1
	22,479	7	11

As compared with 23,251*l.* 10*s.* 6½*d.* on 31st December 1881.

PUBLIC DEBT.

7. The public debt of the Colony for which the general revenue is directly pledged was on the 31st December 58,794*l.*, as compared with 75,207*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* in 1881. This decrease of 16,413*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* arises from the provision made during the year for the extinction of the debt and from the payment of bonds under Ordinance No. 31, of 1868, authorising a loan for village improvements.

The loans guaranteed by the general revenue exhibit a decrease of 24,628*l.* 17*s.* 10*d.* They were as follows:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
For immigration - - - -	225,300	0	0
To the city of Georgetown - -	37,862	10	0
To the town of New Amsterdam - -	4,027	15	6½
Total guaranteed loans - -	267,190	5	6½
Amount for which the general revenue is directly pledged - - - -	58,794	0	0
Grand total 1882 - - -	325,984	5	6½
„ 1881 - - -	367,026	10	0
Decrease in 1882 - -	41,042	4	5½

MILITARY EXPENDITURE.

8. The disbursements of the Colonial Government in connexion with the Georgetown militia, the volunteer force, and the Imperial troops in garrison amounted to 2,958*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* The Imperial expenditure was 14,080*l.* 18*s.* 7*d.* The total military expenditure was therefore 17,039*l.* 11*s.* 11*d.*, and was 1,041*l.* less than in 1881.

PUBLIC WORKS.

9. The provision made for public works during the year was to the extent of 140,482*l.* 7*s.* 0½*d.*, but of this only a sum of 69,144*l.* 17*s.* 5½*d.* was expended. A further sum of 4,191*l.* 7*s.* 10½*d.* was expended on urgent works for which no provision had been made, making a total expenditure of 73,336*l.* 5*s.* 1½*d.*, as compared with an expenditure in 1881 of 73,666*l.* 0*s.* 8*d.*

The principal items of expenditure were :—

	£
Constructing new law courts - -	11,432
Sea defences, Georgetown—completion of dam - - - -	11,255
Constructing new hospital, Berbice -	4,688
Completing residences at Botanic gardens - - - - -	5,543
Constructing police barracks, New Amsterdam - - - -	2,326
Repairs and enlargements at penal settlement - - - - -	2,198

LEGISLATION.

10. Twelve Ordinances were passed during the year, of which the following are noteworthy :—

No. 4.—"To facilitate the acquisition of lands required for public purposes." Under the provisions of this enactment land required for public purposes may, upon resolution being passed by the Governor and Court of Policy declaring it to be so required, be taken possession of, its value being subsequently determined by a jury after public inquiry before a judge.

No. 6.—"To repeal the Board of Education Ordinance, 1876, and to provide for the duties hitherto performed by the Board thereby established." The cost of primary education had so greatly increased it was found necessary on the grounds of public economy that the Government should be entrusted with the direct control of the Education Department, and by this Ordinance the Board of Education is abolished and the working powers of the Board transferred to the Inspector of Schools, subject to the direction and approval of the Governor.

No. 8.—"To provide for the maintenance of the Civil List Establishment of British Guiana." Provision is under this

enactment made for a civil list of 26,333*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* per annum for seven years from 1st January 1883.

No. 10.—"To provide for the maintenance of the ministers of the Christian religion in the colony of British Guiana." This enactment provides for the maintenance for seven years from 1st January 1883 of a Clergy List Establishment to the extent of 19,300*l.* per annum. The endowment is as follows:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Church of England - -	10,433	6	8
Church of Scotland - -	5,116	13	4
Wesleyan Missionary Society -	1,041	13	4
Congregational and other dissenting denominations - -	208	6	8
Roman Catholic Church - -	2,500	0	0
	£19,300	0	0

No. 11.—"To provide against the adulteration of food and drugs." This enactment is similar in its provisions to the Imperial Adulteration Act.

Political Franchise.

11. The county franchise is determined by the possession of three acres of land under cultivation, or of house property of 20*l.* annual rental; by the occupancy for three years of six acres of land under cultivation, or for one year of house property of 40*l.* annual rental; or by an income of 125*l.*

The town franchise is determined by the possession of house property of the value of 104*l.* 3*s.* 4*d.*, or occupancy of the same at an annual rental of 25*l.*; or by an income of 125*l.*

The number of registered electors on 31st December was 1,041, showing an increase of 40 over the number registered in 1881 and of 326 over the number in 1880.

Councils and Assemblies.

12. *Court of Policy.*—Mr. Allan Cameron McCalman resigned in consequence of departure from the Colony, and was succeeded by Mr. B. Howell Jones. Mr. Thomas Mulligan at the close of the Annual Session of the Combined Court vacated his seat, and was re-elected thereto.

13. *Combined Court.*—Mr. Edward Stephens, Mr. William Craigen, Mr. W. F. Bridges, and Mr. Andrew Hunter resigned in consequence of departure from the Colony, and were succeeded by Mr. Alex. Barr, Mr. W. H. Sherlock, Mr. Mewburn Garnett, and Mr. John Reid Hunter. Mr. D. C. Cameron was re-elected on the expiration of his term of service.

Civil Establishment.

14. *Deaths.*—There were 12 deaths amongst public officer holding appointments in the Colony, viz.:—

Mr. John Haughton, Stipendiary Magistrate.

Mr. John Alves, Stipendiary Magistrate, while returning to the Colony from leave of absence.

Rev. John McDonald, Clergyman of the Church of England, while proceeding to England on leave of absence.

Dr. E. H. Klein, district Medical Officer.

Dr. J. T. Dickson, district Medical Officer, while proceeding to England on leave of absence.

Mr. E. G. Anderson,
Mr. R. C. Tucker,
Mr. G. S. Younger,
} district Commissaries of Taxation.

Mr. F. O. King, first Sworn Clerk and Notary Public.

Mr. J. N. L. Backer, Chief Clerk in Audit Department.

Mr. Duncan Ferguson, Aidwaiter in Customs Department.

Mr. R. B. Altham, Magistrates' clerk.

15. *Appointments and Promotions.*—The principal changes in the Public Service during the year was as follows:—

Sir Henry Turner Irving, K.C.M.G., assumed the Government on 4th May, in succession to Governor C. H. Kortright (now Sir Cornelius Kortright), who resigned on account of ill-health in February. The Government was from 1st Jauuary to fourth May administered by Lieutenant-Governor Young, C.M.G.

On 25th October Mr. P. H. Nind, Auditor-General, resigned his appointment, and Mr. Francis J. Villiers, C.M.G., was appointed to the vacant post.

Mr. Francis Fleming on 4th May entered upon the duties of Puisne Judge, to which office he had been appointed, in succession to Mr. Hugh Riley Semper, promoted to Gibralter.

Mr. Walter Helier Hutchens from Jamaica on 22nd September entered upon the duties of Colonial Civil Engineer, which office had been temporary filled since November, 1880, by Mr. H. H. Siccama, who left the Colony on the completion of his engagement with the Government.

The following apointments were made to the magistracy:—

Mr. John Brumell, Barrister-at-law in succession to the late Mr. John Haughton;

Mr. Everard F. im Thurn, M.A., in succession to Mr. W. C. H. F. McClintock, Special Magistrate, retired on pension;

Mr. Thos. Fitzgerald, in succession to the late Mr. John Alves, and Mr. E. A. Northcote, Barrister-at-Law.

Several changes occurred in the Medical Department, and the following supernumerary officers were added to the staff to fill vacancies which had previously existed or were occasioned by promotions during the year from the supernumerary staff, viz.:—

Doctors W. Duncan, E. M. Pearless, E. E. Young, Thos. Kelly, H. F. Corbould, M Williamson, and W. F. Smartt.

BRITISH GUIANA.

In the clergy establishment one or two changes took place, consequent on the death of the Rev. John MacDonald, viz.:—

Rev. T. Moulder, curate in St. Paul's parish, succeeded Mr. MacDonald in the Incumbency of Christ Church and the Rev. Geo. Salmon, curate in St. George's Parish, was appointed to the vacancy caused by Mr. Moulder's promotion. The Rev. Robt. Wyllie was appointed to the vacant curacy in St. George's Parish.

SECURITY.

16. One hundred and fourteen officers in positions of trust gave security during the year, and the sums for which they were liable varied from 52*l.* to 4,000*l.*, the total amount assured being 23,028*l.* Eighty-five officers, as compared with seventy-six in 1881, gave security in the Public Officers' Guarantee Fund. The remaining Officers had prior to the establishment of the fund executed the usual security bonds for the sums for which they were answerable.

PENSIONS.

17. The Pension List of 1882 contained the names of 37 pensioners, and amounted to 7,830*l.* 13*s.* 6*d.*, showing an increase of 161*l.* on that of 1881. One pensioner, Mr. W. C. H. F. McClintock, Special Magistrate, with a pension of 350*l.* per annum, was added to the list during the year, and by the death of two pensioners a sum of 189*l.* lapsed.

PUBLIC OFFICERS' WIDOWS AND ORPHANS' FUND.

18. The receipts of the fund—derived from abatements of 4 per cent. from salaries of 100*l.* and upwards of all public officers, and from interest on monies invested—amounted to 8,115*l.* There were 75 pensioners on the books of the fund on the 31st December, and the pensions paid during the year amounted in the aggregate to 5,382*l.* The credit balance of the fund was 52,323*l.*

POPULATION.

19. The estimated population of the Colony on 31st December, 1881, was 254,225. The natural increase during 1882, as represented by the excess of births over deaths, was 654, and the increase by excess of immigration over emigration amounted to 2,594. The population may therefore be estimated at 257,473 on 31st December, 1882.

MISCELLANEOUS RETURNS.

20. *Savings Banks.*—On the 31st December there were 12,209 depositors in the Government Savings Banks, with deposits amounting in the aggregate to 228,235*l.* 15*s.* 6*d.* Of the depositors 6,318 were immigrants, with a sum of 142,453*l.* 18*s.* 3*d.*, to their credit. The Creole and other depositors numbered 5,891, and at their credit there was the sum of 85,781*l.* 17*s.* 3*d.*

The deposits of the immigrants give an average of 22*l.* 10*s.* 9¾*d.* per depositor, and those of the Creoles and others, an average of 14*l.* 11*s.* 2¾*d.*

21. *Paupers.*—The number of persons who received Poor Law relief during the year was 2,630 as against 2,449 in the previous year.

22. *Immigration.*—The number of immigrants introduced during the year was 3,949, equivalent to 3,675 statute adults, viz.:—

From Calcutta - - - -	2,960½
„ Barbadoes - - -	714½
	3,675

The average cost of each statute adult Indian immigrant was 18*l.* 11*s.* 7*d.* during the season 1881–82, as compared with 16*l.* 19*s.* 6*d.* in the previous season, and 17*l.* 14*s.* 6*d.* in the season 1879–80.

The cost of the immigrants introduced from Barbados was 1,245*l.* 17*s.* 1½*d.*, or an average of 1*l.* 14*s.* 10¼*d.* per statute adult, as compared with 3*l.* 13*s.* 1½*d.*, the cost in 1881, and 2*l.* 0*s.* 7*d.* in 1880.

23. *Return Immigrants.*—The number of immigrants who returned to India during the year was 1,109 souls or 1,001 statute adults, being, as compared with the number returned in 1881, a decrease of 365½ adults. The sums deposited with the Government by these immigrants for remittance to India amounted in the aggregate to 18,398*l.* 14*s.* 8*d.*, and the value of the jewelery carried away by them is estimated at 4,216*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.*, giving an average savings of about 22*l.* 12*s.* per adult immigrant.

EDUCATION.

24. *Queen's College.*—The number of students in this institution on 31st December 1882 was 51. Five out of the six students who entered as candidates for the Cambridge Local Examination were successful. The other student was prevented by illness from attending the examination.

25. *Guiana Scholarship.*—The first public competitive examination of candidates for the "Guiana" scholarship was held in May 1882, and resulted in the award of one of the scholarships to a senior student of Queen's College.

26. *Elementary Schools.*—Government aid was granted to 183 schools, viz. :—

Primary schools - - -	161
Infant schools - - -	14
Mission schools - - -	8
	183

Aid was withdrawn from six schools, and one was closed by its manager. Two new schools were added to the list of state-aided schools.

One hundred and seventy-nine schools were inspected, of these five failed, and provisional grants were subsequently made to them. There were on the registers 22,378 children, whose average attendance during the year was 11,710. The number present at inspection was 17,208, of whom 11,475 were examined.

27. *Training Institution.*—This institution having failed to accomplish the purpose for which it was established was closed on the 31st December, after an existence as a Government institution of six years, during which period only 40 students had gained teachers' certificates. The average annual cost of the institution was about 1,063*l.*

28. *School for Vagrant and Youthful Offenders.*—There were 121 boys in the school on 31st December, as compared with 112 in the preceding year. The cost of the institution, including salaries of superintendent and subordinate staff, was 2,607*l.* If from that amount be deducted the total receipts from provisions sold or supplied to other institutions, viz.: 1,144*l.*, it will be seen that the actual cost of the institution was only 1,463*l.* or 12*l.* per inmate, exclusive of the value of labour expended for the benefit of the institution.

Only one death occurred in the institution during the year, and the health of the inmates was on the whole very satisfactory.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

29. *Imports.* — The imports of 1882 were valued at 2,099,632*l.* 15*s.*, showing an increase of 315,488*l.* 2*s.* 7*d.* as compared with the imports of the preceding year, and of 96,937*l.* 0*s.* 5*d.* as compared with 1880.

The following is a comparative statement of the principal articles of food imported into the Colony during the years 1881 and 1882 :—

RETURN of the PRINCIPAL ARTICLES of FOOD imported into the COLONY of BRITISH GUIANA, during the Years 1881 and 1882.

Articles.	1881.		1882.		Increase in 1882.		Decrease in 1882.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
		£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Bacon - - - - - - lbs.	17,139	801 1 6½	15,364	661 6 8½	—	—	1,775	139 14 10
Beef, pickled - - - - - - brls.	3,533	11,516 2 10	5,028	19,523 5 3½	1,495	8,007 2 5½	—	—
„ dried - - - - - - lbs.	3,138	114 17 1	1,987	123 6 5½	—	8 9 4½	1,151	—
Bread - - - - - - „	2,080,490	21,513 15 2	1,733,223	19,770 0 7	—	—	347,267	1,743 14 7
Butter - - - - - - „	710,185	30,708 8 4½	737,241	31,609 4 3½	27,056	900 15 10	—	—
Cheese - - - - - - „	217,574	7,227 18 0½	259,895	7,358 15 8½	42,321	130 17 8	—	—
Coffee - - - - - - „	498,019	14,573 8 5	275,215	4,137 19 10½	—	—	222,804	10,435 8 6½
Cocoa - - - - - - „	771,079	22,615 11 11	454,387	10,914 17 8	—	—	316,692	11,700 14 3
Corn and pulse - - - - - bus.	134,076	33,123 10 2	114,796	28,020 19 3	—	—	19,280	5,102 10 11
Corn and oatmeal - - - - - lbs.	2,429,581	9,429 1 8½	1,240,624	5,821 4 8	—	—	1,188,957	3,607 17 0½
Cattle - - - - - - no.	613	7,073 10 10	721	7,565 18 11	108	492 8 1	—	—
Fish, dried - - - - - - qtls.	77,289	54,463 10 5	74,129	74,318 1 9	—	19,854 11 4	3,160	—
„ mackerel, pickled - - - - brls.	4,833	4,516 11 7	3,007	4,417 19 9½	—	—	1,876	98 11 9½
„ other sorts, pickled - - - - „	3,837	3,147 0 2	7,121	6,551 18 11½	3,284	3,404 18 9½	—	—
„ smoked - - - - - - lbs.	75,452	439 5 6½	74,415	551 7 7½	—	112 2 1	1,037	—
Flour - - - - - - brls.	132,565	156,982 6 10	103,734	126,135 9 8½	—	—	28,831	30,846 17 1½
Hams - - - - - - lbs.	295,648	7,900 3 2	360,599	9,764 1 2	64,951	1,863 18 0	—	—
Lard - - - - - - - „	840,375	16,421 12 9½	634,090	13,999 8 5½	—	—	206,285	2,422 4 4
Onions - - - - - - „	1,372,590	4,541 16 1	1,572,604	6,414 18 2	200,014	1,873 2 1	—	—
Pepper - - - - - - „	26,244	573 7 1	37,957	858 17 2	11,713	285 10 1	—	—
Pork - - - - - - - brls.	14,348	51,732 2 9½	12,811	55,087 11 4	—	3,355 8 6½	1,537	—
Potatoes - - - - - - „	50,863	20,570 13 0½	66,045	20,189 16 5	15,182	—	—	380 16 7½
Rice - - - - - - - lbs.	49,380,088	241,048 18 11½	43,964,091	204,959 0 9½	—	—	5,423,997	36,089 18 2
Sago - - - - - - - „	117,355	842 0 7	94,487	653 14 10½	—	—	22,868	188 5 8½
Salt - - - - - - - brls.	10,903	2,164 4 9	13,162	2,433 15 0	2,259	269 10 3	—	—
Sugar, refined - - - - - lbs.	22,797	328 12 10	24,829	416 14 0	2,032	88 1 2	—	—
Tea - - - - - - - „	57,233	3,515 7 8½	48,425	2,280 11 3½	—	—	8,808	1,234 16 5
Total - - - -	—	727,885 0 5	—	664,540 5 11	—	40,646 15 9	—	103,991 10 7

BRITISH GUIANA.

Rice and Flour.—The falling off in the imports of these articles shown in the foregoing statement is attributable to there being a surplus stock from large importations in the year preceding.

Cocoa.—The decrease under this head may arise from the exportation of that article direct from Dutch Guiana to the United Kingdom instead of through the ports of this colony.

Coffee.—The falling off in the imports of coffee is not improbably occasioned by the increased cultivation in the Colony of that valuable product.

Fish, dried.—The increase under this head is attributable to the higher prices prevailing in 1882.

The increases to be found against the following items of import may fairly be attributed to the prosperity during the year of the sugar industry, viz.:—

	£
Machinery - - -	155,986
Coals - - - -	70,364
Lumber - - -	19,941
Staves - - -	17,979
Manure - - -	9,219

30. *Exports.*—The value of the exports was 3,208,631*l.* 4*s.* 1½*d.* equal to 12*l.* 9*s.* per head of the estimated population. As compared with the exports of the two preceding years there was an increase on 1881 of 611,340*l.* 2*s.* 7½*d.*, and on 1880 of 591,006*l.* 12*s.* 3½*d.*

The increase is due to increased exportations of the staples and manufactures of the Colony—the results of prosperous seasons.

The following is a comparative statement of the value of exports in the years 1881 and 1882:—

Comparative Statement of the Value of Exports in the years 1881 *and* 1882, *showing the Increase or Decrease in* 1882 *in each description of Export.*

Articles.	Value. 1881.	Value. 1882.	Increase in 1881.	Decrease in 1882.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Coffee - - -	37 9 7½	39 6 6	1 16 10½	—
Cocoanuts - - -	2,999 6 3	1,764 18 3	—	1,234 8 0
Charcoal - - -	5,200 0 0	5,360 5 0	160 5 0	—
Corn and pulse - -	138 2 6	120 4 2	—	17 18 4
Cattle and live stock -	1,828 9 7	1,465 6 8	—	363 2 11
Firewood - - -	115 9 2	210 14 7	95 5 5	—
Glue, fish - - -	2,909 12 8	1,791 3 10	—	1,118 8 10
Gum, Balata - -	4,605 9 2	5,813 16 0½	1,208 6 10½	—
„ other - -	4,762 4 8½	2,744 6 2	—	2,017 18 6½
Hides and horns - -	3,029 1 2½	2,862 5 7	—	166 15 7½
Molasses - - -	75,140 0 0	71,333 6 8	—	3,806 13 4
Rum - - -	283,722 14 2	298,171 16 2	14,449 2 0	—
Shingles - - -	3,543 6 3	3,127 16 10½	—	415 9 4½
Sugar - - -	2,019,257 9 2½	2,585,457 0 7½	566,199 11 5	—
Timber - - -	4,957 8 10½	33,526 11 3	28,569 2 4½	—

Articles.	Value. 1881.	Value. 1882.	Increase in 1881.	Decrease in 1882.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Machinery - -	—	650 0 0	650 0 0	—
Bullion, gold - -	—	187 10 0	187 10 0	—
Miscellaneous - -	2,691 4 10½	3,279 15 0	570 9 1½	—
Total colonial produce	2,414,937 8 3	3,017,888 3 4½	612,091 10 1	9,140 14 11½
Total foreign produce -	182,353 13 3	190,743 0 9	8,389 7 6	—
Total exports - -	2,597,291 1 6	3,208,631 4 1½	620,480 17 7	9,140 14 11½
Net increase, colonial produce - -	602,950 15 1½	—	—	—
Net increase, foreign produce - - -	8,389 7 6	—	—	—
	3,208,631 4 1½	3,208,631 4 1½	—	—

31. The following statement shows the value and direction of the trade of the Colony:—

Countries.	Imports.	Exports.
	£	£
United Kingdom - - -	1,214,256	1,962,429
United States - - -	387,882	913,057
British North America - -	108,052	79,351
British West Indies - -	86,271	94,449
Foreign West Indies - -	12,274	71,952
Dutch Guiana - - -	40,953	55,972
Other Foreign Countries - -	79,169	26,295
Other British Colonies - -	170,775	5,126
Total - -	2,099,633	3,208,631

SHIPPING.

32. The number of vessels entered and cleared at the two ports of the Colony, Georgetown and New Amsterdam, during the year were as follows:—

—	Ports.	Entered. No.	Entered. Tonnage.	Cleared. No.	Cleared. Tonnage.
Steam vessels.	Georgetown - - -	112	92,908	114	94,203
	New Amsterdam - - -	—	—	2	1,480
	Total - -	112	92,908	116	95,683
Sailing vessels.	Georgetown - - -	970	224,676	936	211,499
	New Amsterdam - - -	61	12,426	56	11,466
	Total - -	1,031	237,102	992	222,965
	Total Steam and Sailing Vessels -	1,143	330,010	1,108	318,648

BRITISH GUIANA.

As compared with the year preceding there was a very satisfactory increase in the number of vessels visiting the ports of the Colony, as is shown in the following comparative statement:—

—	Vessels.	1881.		1882.		Increase.	
		No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
Entered.	Steam Vessels - -	111	84,935	112	92,908	1	7,975
	Sailing Vessels - -	860	175,667	1,031	237,102	171	61,435
	Total - -	971	260,602	1,143	330,010	172	69,408
Cleared.	Steam Vessels - -	110	85,060	116	95,683	6	10,623
	Sailing Vessels - -	848	173,919	992	222,965	144	49,046
	Total - -	958	258,979	1,108	318,648	150	59,669

AGRICULTURE.

33. *Cultivated lands.*—The following are the principal heads of cultivation:—canes, cocoanuts, plaintains, coffee, cocoa, and rice.

The total area of land in cultivation and occupied by sugar estates, as per acreage returns of 30th June 1882, was 81,689 acres, of which 79,263 acres were in canes, and the remaining 2,426 acres in plantains. The area in canes exhibits an increase of 1,305 acres over the area in cultivation in 1881. The sugar cane is now being extensively cultivated in several villages, as a ready sale is obtained for the canes at remunerative prices, and it is estimated that the total area now under cultivation by the village farmers will yield about 1,000 hhds. of sugar. The canes are purchased from the growers and are ground on the sugar estates on the usine system, payment being made per ton according to the amount of sugar obtained, as indicated by polarization of the juice.

The exports of sugar, rum, and molasses, the products of the sugar cane, were as follows:—

—	Quantity.	Value.
Sugar, hogsheads - - - -	137,891	2,585,457
Rum, puncheons - - - - -	29,209	298,171
Molasses, casks - - - -	17,120	71,333
	—	2,954,961

There are no statistics of the entire area of land in cultivation throughout the Colony, the acreage returns having reference only to sugar estates.

Cocoanuts are cultivated chiefly in the Mahaicony district. The exports during the year were 529,474 cocoanuts, valued at 1,764*l.*

Coffee is grown chiefly in the county of Berbice and on Canal 1 in the county of Demerara. It is considered to be of very

fine quality and at one time formed one of the principal articles of export from the Colony. It is now not even produced in sufficient quantities for home consumption. The exports in 1832, half a century ago, were 3,674,985 lbs., valued at 151,735*l.* In 1882 the exports were 1,591 lbs., valued at 39*l.*, and the imports from other places amounted to 275,215 lbs., valued at 4,137*l.*

Cocoa though indigenous to the Colony has never formed an important article of export. The high prices for this product recently prevailing has now given an impetus to its cultivation, and cocoa plants have been put in on some estates in the vicinity of Georgetown. It is estimated that there are about 365 acres in young plants in the No. 1 canal district.

Rice.—Many parts of the Colony are peculiarly suited to the production of rice, and the attempts that have heretofore been made in this direction have only failed because of the inadequacy of the labour supply of the Colony. In recent years rice has however been increasingly cultivated by East Indian immigrants who have served out their terms of indenture on the sugar estates.

34. *Uncultivated Lands.*—There were 62,617 acres of empoldered but uncultivated lands in the occupation of sugar estates. Until the boundaries of the Colony are defined, the total area of uncultivated lands cannot be even approximately ascertained.

35. *Rate of Wages.*—The wages of labourers on the sugar estates vary from 1*s.* per diem paid to weeders to 3*s.* 4*d.* per diem paid to cane cutters. The immigrants on the estates are provided with dwellings and hospital accommodation, and industrious labourers are able to amass considerable sums of money, as is testified by their deposits in the Government Savings' bank and by their remittances to India.

36. *Improvements in Agriculture and Manufacture.*—Considerable improvement has been made in recent years in the drainage and irrigation of land under cultivation on sugar estates, and also in the manufacture of sugar. The tendency amongst sugar planters is to establish central factories for the crops of as many even as four sugar estates, and from 2,000 to 6,000 hhds., are now the output of such factories. A movement is on foot for the erection of small sugar mills in certain villages to be driven by both wind power and steam.

The value of the machinery imported into the colony during the years 1880, 1881, and 1882 was as follows:—

	£
1880 - - - - -	56,545
1881 - - - - -	50,476
1882 - - - - -	155,986

The large increase in 1882 is chiefly due to the importation of new plants of machinery for sugar estates.

GRANTS OF LAND.

37. Eight licenses of occupancy and forty-two woodcutting censes were issued dur ing the year for an area of 13,108 acres,

BRITISH GUIANA.

an increase of 1,940 acres as compared with the area granted in 1881. Twelve of the licenses were for grants of 100 acres and under, thirty-five for tracts of above 100 acres and not exceeding 500 acres, and three for tracts of more than 500 acres each.

There was an increase of 19 woodcutting licenses, as compared with the number issued in 1881. The timber exported amounted to 536,425 cubic feet, which at the average price of 1*s.* 3*d.* per cubic foot represents a value of 33,526*l.*, as compared with an export in 1881 of 113,313 cubic feet priced at 10½*d.* per cubic foot, and representing a value of 4,957*l.* The increase in the price is partly attributable to the demand in 1882 for greenheart of superior size and quality, and it would appear also that the exports of timber in 1881 were undervalued.

CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

38. *Police Reports.*—The number of offences reported to the police or to the magistrates was 13,005, a decrease of 512 compared with the number reported in 1881.

39. *Apprehensions and Summonses.*—The manner in which the cases brought before the magistrates' courts in 1881 and 1882, were disposed of was as follows:—

	1881.	1882.
	£	£
Convicted	13,065	13,694
Discharged	8,778	10,796
Acquitted	5,027	4,806
Sent on to Higher Courts	326	215
Total	27,196	29,511

40. *Convictions.*—The total number of summary convictions in the magistrates' courts was 13,694 as compared with 13,065 in the preceding year. The number of convictions for offences against the person was lower than in any year in the last decade, and was, as compared with 1881, at the rate of 25·35 per cent. against 31·35 per cent. of the total convictions. There was an increase of 2·70 per cent. in 1882 in the convictions for offences under the Masters' and Servants' Acts.

The punishments inflicted in the magistrates' courts in 1881 and 1882 are shown in the following comparative statement:—

Punishment.	1881.	1882.
Fine	51·16	55·07
Peremptory Imprisonment	26·20	24·52
Imprisonment in lieu of fine or surety	20·40	18·22
Whipping	·88	·70
Bound over with or without sureties	1·36	1·49

In the following table is shown the summary convictions and the convictions in the superior courts in each year since 1872, and the percentage of such convictions to the population :—

Year.	Estimated population.	Summary convictions.					Convictions in superior courts.					Grand total.	Percentage.
		Offences against the person.	Prædial larceny.	Offences against property other than prædial larceny.	Other offences.	Total.	Offences against the person.	Prædial larceny.	Offences against property other than prædial larceny.	Other offences.	Total.		
1872 -	199,360	3,826	80	911	7,613	12,430	120	—	134	34	288	12,718	6·3
1873 -	205,229	5,976	156	1,176	10,726	18,034	104	—	137	63	304	18,338	8·9
1874 -	211,098	5,082	140	1,852	16,555	23,629	114	3	182	30	329	23,958	11·3
1875 -	216,908	7,379	268	2,001	13,115	22,763	113	—	138	28	279	23,042	10·6
1876 -	222,636	6,128	93	1,302	10,026	17,549	81	—	148	28	257	17,806	7·9
1877 -	228,705	7,368	135	1,650	8,977	18,130	104	—	148	49	301	18,431	8·0
1878 -	234,574	5,219	149	1,675	8,688	15,731	104	—	135	45	284	16,015	6·8
1879 -	240,443	4,828	189	1,525	7,387	13,929	110	—	249	44	403	14,332	5·5
1880 -	246,312	3,872	423	1,315	8,244	13,854	121	—	186	14	321	14,175	5·7
1881 -	254,225	4,097	271	1,244	7,453	13,065	84	1	135	13	233	13,398	5·2
1882 -	257,473	3,472	106	1,128	8,988	13,694	51	—	83	18	152	13,846	5·3

GAOLS AND PRISONERS.

41. The total number of prisoners committed was 6,170, showing a decrease on the preceding year of 729 prisoners. The number committed for the purposes of penal imprisonment exhibits a decrease of 725, the commitments in 1882 being 4,626 as against 5,351 in 1881. 646 persons were committed for safety till trial or for want of security, and 5 for debt. 934 (748 males, 148 females and 38 juveniles) or 15 per cent. of the prisoners had been previously convicted, 736 or 11·9 per cent. once, 128 or 2 per cent. twice, and 70 or 1·1 per cent. three times or more. The daily average number in prison was 820 as compared with 980 in 1881.

There were 2,953 admissions to the prison hospitals, and 16 cases of sickness resulted fatally, as compared with 1,716 admissions and 30 deaths in 1881. The daily average on the sick list was 34 as compared with 54 in 1881. Six executions took place during the year. On 9 occasions compared with 23 in

BRITISH GUIANA.

1881, whipping was inflicted for offences within the prison walls. The total number of punishments inflicted was 3,920 as against 3,600 in 1881.

HOSPITALS.

42. *Admissions.*—There were 394 patients in the public hospital at Georgetown at the commencement of the year. The number of patients admitted for treatment during the year was 6,126, as compared with 5,481 in the preceding year.

The admissions of patients to the public hospital at New Amsterdam were 1,248, as compared with 1,423 in 1881. There were 96 patients in hospital at the commencement of the year.

43. *Out Patients.*—11,291 out patients were treated at the public hospital in Georgetown, and 5,024 at the hospital in New Amsterdam.

44. *Discharges.*—The number of patients discharged was as follows:—

	Georgetown.	New Amsterdam.
Cured - - - - -	3,720 or 57 per cent.	546 or 44 per cent.
Relieved - - - -	1,312 or 20 „	312 or 25 „
Not improved - - - -	289 or 4 „	80 or 6 „
	5,321 or 81 per cent.	938 or 75 per cent.

45. *Deaths.*—There were 820 deaths in the hospital at Georgetown as compared with 897 in 1881. Ninety-eight cases were moribund on admission, and deducting these the mortality was at the rate of 11·76 per cent. of the cases treated as compared with 14·57 per cent. in 1881 and 13·83 per cent. in 1880.

In the New Amsterdam hospital there were 160 deaths, giving a death rate of 12·82* on the number of cases treated, as compared with the death rate in 1881 of 11·31 and in 1880 of 12·38.

46. *Diseases.*—The principal kinds of diseases treated at the Georgetown hospital were:— Ulcers, 690 cases; intermittent fever, 620; rheumatism, 389; phthisis, 305; diarrhœa, 254; syphilis 242; debility, 235; anœmia, 218; abscess, 169; and dropsy, 150.

* It has since been ascertained that eight deaths (five males and three females) were returned in excess of the actual number. If these be deducted the death rate would then be 12·17 per cent. of the cases treated.

The following is a comparative table of the diseases treated at the two public hospitals, and of the deaths from such diseases for the years 1881 and 1882:—

Diseases.	Georgetown.				New Amsterdam.			
	1881.		1882.		1881.		1882.	
	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.
Zymotic - - -	1,877	274	2,116	226	535	52	165	30
Constitutional - -	603	276	607	273	269	57	331	36
Local - - -	2,082	205	2,455	173	563	76	700	89
Developmental - -	634	118	603	135	7	1	10	1
Accidents - - -	285	24	345	13	49	1	42	4
Total - -	5,481	897*	6,126	820†	1,423	187‡	1,248	160

97 moribund on admission. † 98 moribund on admission. ‡ 26 moribund on admission.

LUNATIC ASYLUM.

47. *Admissions.*—There were 359 patients in this institution at the commencement of the year. The admissions were 94, (55 males and 39 females). The daily average number in the asylum was 370 as against 345 in 1881.

48. *Discharges.*—Thirty-nine inmates, 26 males and 13 females, were discharged as cured, and one male left unimproved.

49. *Deaths.*—There were 32 deaths in the institution. In 14 instances the deceased suffered from Bright's disease, and in five of those instances that disease was the immediate cause of death. There was one case of suicide by hanging.

The percentage of deaths on the average number was 8.6, and on the whole number of patients treated 7 per cent. The corresponding figures for the preceding year are respectively 10·7 and 8·5.

50. *Form of Mental disorders.*—The cases in the asylum at the close of the year were classified as follows:—

Quiet, chronic, and convalescent - -	62 per cent.
Maniacal - - - -	26 „
Idiotic, paralytic, and epileptic - -	9 „
Melancholy, acute - - -	3 „

LEPER ASYLUMS.

51. *Asylum for Females.*—The new asylum for females at Gorchum in the Mahaica district was completed in January 1882, and the female lepers, who since their removal in 1879 from the Mahaica asylum had been located at the public hospital, Georgetown, were immediately transferred to the Gorchum asylum. The asylum consists of six one-storey buildings 48 feet long by 18 feet wide, raised on pillars seven feet high. The gross superficial area is 5,184 square feet, and contains 46,656 cubic feet air space; 1,200 cubic feet is the average amount of cubic space allowed for each inmate. The asylum is under the supervision

BRITISH GUIANA.

and control of Dr. J. D. Hillis, the medical superintendent of the asylum for males at Mahaica.

52. *Admissions, &c.*—The following table shows the admissions to the asylums and results for the last two years:—

	Males.				Females.	
	Mahaica.		Kaow Island.		Gorchum.	
	1881.	1882.	1881.	1882.	1881.	1882.
No. of inmates on 1st January -	130	131	45	50	—	—
Admitted - - - - -	74	55	14	1	—	71
Results.						
Discharged - - -	1	1	—	1	—	2
Removed to another asylum -	11	—	—	—	—	2
Returned to India - -	12	6	—	—	—	—
Absconded - - - -	18	16	4	1	—	6
Died - - - - -	31	15	5	2	—	13
No. of inmates on 31st December	131	148	50	47	—	46

CONCLUDING REMARKS.

53. The epidemic of yellow fever which had assailed the Colony during the latter half of the preceding year gradually died away during the early months of 1882. A fresh outbreak of the fever occurred in July amongst the ships loading with wood in Macouria creek, Essequebo river, but owing to the prompt and stringent measures of precaution adopted, the disease was prevented from spreading. In other respects the general health of the Colony during the year was good. The mean temperature as ascertained by private observations in Georgetown was 80·20, and the mean monthly rainfall in Georgetown was 7·77 inches.

No serious breaches of the peace occurred, and the criminal statistics for the year exhibit a satisfactory decrease in crimes of violence.

The sugar crop of 1882 is the largest on record in the annals of the Colony, and the extended area of cultivated lands indicates progress in agriculture.

There was a marked improvement in the trade and finances of the Colony, evinced by the large increase in the value of the imports and exports, and by the reduction during the year of the public debt.

Contrasting the general results of the year under review with those of the previous year it will be seen that the Colony has enjoyed a year of remarkable prosperity.

(Signed) F. W. COLLIER,
Acting Assistant Government Secretary.

Government Secretary's Office,
12th May 1883.

TRINIDAD.

No. 18.

Governor Sir S. FREELING, K.C.M.G., to the Right Hon. the EARL OF DERLY.

MY LORD, Trinidad, July 10, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to transmit certified copies of the Blue Book of Trinidad for the year 1882, which has only been received this day from the printer, together with a short report thereon.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. (Signed) S. FREELING,
The Earl of Derby, Governor.
&c. &c.

Taxes and Duties.

1. No additional taxation was imposed during the year; the rates of export duty imposed by Ordinance No. 18 of 1881 for raising funds in aid of immigration being lower than in either of the two previous years.

Revenue and Expenditure.

2. The revenue for the year, exclusive of Public Works Suspense Accounts, amounted to 437,383*l.*, or 3,149*l.* in excess of that for the year 1881. The expenditure was 441,193*l.*, as against 446,195*l.* in 1881. The balance to the credit of the Colony on the 31st December 1882 was 49,823*l.*, but in this sum are included sums of 4,139*l.* and 17,012*l.*, advanced on account of the Police Superannuation Fund and the construction of the San Fernando waterworks respectively, with regard to which it is doubtful as to how far repayment can be expected. In the general revenue and expenditure of this Colony are included all sums raised and expended on account of local taxation and expenditure, with the exception of those pertaining to the boroughs of Port of Spain and San Fernando, as well as the revenue and expenditure raised for immigration purposes.

Local Revenues.

3. The revenue of the borough of Port of Spain amounted to 21,577*l.* as against 19,806*l.* in the year 1881. The receipts, however, of the year 1881 were swollen by receipts from deben-

TRINIDAD.

tures issued on account of the Gutter Improvement Loan, to the extent of 4,300*l.*, while those for the year 1882 were increased by a balance brought forward from the 31st August 1881 of 6,317*l.* The expenditure for the year amounted to 18,399*l.* as against 15,475*l.* in 1881.

4. The revenue of the borough of San Fernando was 4,214*l.* as compared with 3,377*l.* in 1881, and the expenditure 3,873*l.* as against 3,471*l.* in 1881.

Public Debt.

5. The public debt of the Colony at the close of the year amounted to 591,760*l.*, debentures to the extent of 100,000*l.* having been issued under Ordinance No. 1 of 1882 for the completion of the San Fernando extension of the railway and the construction of the Guaracara line. The whole of this debt, with the exception of some 6,400*l.*, has been incurred for railway construction. Railway debentures to the extent of 14,640*l.* have already been redeemed.

Public Works.

6. The ordinary expenditure upon public works amounted to 83,922*l.*, which may be classified under the following heads, viz.:—

	£
Maintenance of main and local roads	40,470
Road extension and improvement -	5,453
Repairs, alterations, and additions to buildings - - -	15,915
New buildings - - -	13,372
Miscellaneous, such as fencing Government property, tramways, wharves, sewerage, &c. - - -	8,710

7. The boys' and girls' model schools, the new wing of the Royal gaol, and the new coolie depôt, were the most important buildings completed during the year but the Couva police station; and the magistrate's house at Cedros were in course of construction.

Railways.

8. The extension of the Government railway from Claxton's Bay to San Fernando, a distance of 5½ miles, was opened on the 17th April. Notwithstanding a reduction of rates, both as regards passenger and goods traffic, the receipts under the former head show an increase of 5,211*l.*, and under the latter of 2,097*l.* The lines have yielded a net return to the capital expended upon them of abont two per cent., but as the interest paid on that capital amounts to five and four per cent., they are being worked a present at a loss although with the development of the country by their agency there seems reasonable prospect of this loss

becoming yearly less. The working expenses were 3*s.* 9*d.* per train mile, the gross receipts were 995*l.* and the expenses 745*l.* per mile.

Legislation.

9. Seventeen Ordinances were passed during the year, viz:—

No. 1.—To authorise the raising of a loan of 120,000*l.* for the completion of the San Fernando Extension Railway and the construction of the Guaracara Railway.

No. 2.—To amend the Law as to Merchant Shipping.

No. 3.—To amend the Law relating to certain Duties of Customs.

No. 4.—To consolidate and amend the Law relating to Savings Banks.

No. 5.—To restrict the introduction of Paupers likely to become chargeable to the Colony.

No. 6.—For repealing certain Ordinances which have ceased to be in force or have become unnecessary.

No. 7.—To ratify and confirm the Supplemental Estimates for the service of the year 1881, and the issue of certain moneys paid for the service of the Government of the Colony during the same year.

No. 8.—To enable Joseph Brown Payne to lay down, work, and maintain Tramways in the Borough of Port of Spain.

No. 9.—For regulating the Festivals of Immigrants.

No. 10.—To authorise the Mayor and Burgesses of Port of Spain to maintain a Market on the extended Wharf.

No. 11.—to amend the Ordinance No. 17 of 1881, intituled "An Ordinance to make provision for defraying the expenses of "the Government of this Colony for the year 1882."

No. 12.—For the punishment of certain Offences in relation to Railways and Telegraphs, and for other purposes.

No. 13.—To make provision for defraying the expenses of the Government of this Colony for the year 1883.

No. 14.—For raising Funds in aid of Immigration for the year 1883.

No. 15.—To amend "The Savings Banks Ordinance, 1882."

No. 16.—For the regulation of the Queen's Park.

No. 17.—To amend the Law enabling Joseph Brown Payne to lay down and maintain Tramways in Port of Spain.

10. Under Ordinance No. 4 greater facilities are offered to depositors in the Government Savings Bank. The prohibition which existed against depositing more than 30*l.* in any one year is removed, the limit to deposits bearing interest being enlarged at the same time from 100*l.* to 200*l.*, and a branch bank system has been extended to those of the country districts, the importance and population of which warranted such extension.

11. Under Ordinance No. 8 a system of tramways, which are now in course of construction, will be afforded to Port of Spain and its suburbs by means of private enterprise. None of the other Ordinances seem to call for special notice.

TRINIDAD.

12. The only important proclamation of the year was one of the 17th June, prohibiting the exportation of arms and munitions of war to Venezuela, which was issued under instructions from Her Majesty's Government.

Councils and Assemblies.

13. Major Logan, 1st battalion, Royal Scots, succeeded Major Brain in command of the troops, and consequently became, *ex officio*, a member of the Executive Council. Mr. Garcia was appointed to the seat in the Legislative Council, vacant by the death of Mr. Cleaver, and Mr. G. T. Fenwick was appointed to a temporary seat in the same body during the absence on leave of Mr. A. P. Marryat.

Civil Establishment.

14. I proceeded to England on two months' leave of absence on the 27th June, the Government being meanwhile administered by Mr. Scott Bushe, the Colonial Secretary.

15. The following new appointments were made in the Civil Establishment:—

Mr. H. W. Chantrell was appointed Auditor General in the place of Mr. Reinecker, deceased; Messrs. Wolseley, Bennett, Read, Gravely, and Seccombe were appointed to vacancies in the medical staff; Messrs. Brooke-Hill and Robins were appointed first and second Assistant Engineers respectively in the Public Works Department, and Mr. A. Child was appointed Stipendiary Justice of the Peace for Victoria County.

Pensions.

16. The pension list was increased by new pensions to the extent of 71*l.*, and was relieved by 481*l.* through deaths.

Education.

17. In concluding his report for the year 1881-82, the Inspector of Schools sums up "by describing the general progress of education in Trinidad as satisfactory." As compared with former years the educational statistics stand as follows:—

Year.	No. of Schools.	No. of Scholars.	Average attendance.
1868 - - - -	35	2,836	1,333
1878 - - - -	86	6,290	4,238
1880 - - - -	100	8,424	5,419
1881 - - - -	100	8,060	5,541
Six months to 30th June 1882 -	104	9,128	5,977

Of these schools 56 are Government schools, with an average attendance of 2,839, and 48 are assisted schools, with an average attendance of 3,138. The total expenditure upon primary and second-grade schools in the Colony was 13,635*l.*, and the fees obtained as reimbursements from Government schools amounted to 2,106*l.* The total expenditure upon education amounted to 19,899*l.* In the first-grade schools the average attendance at the Queen's Royal College was 64, and that at the College of the Immaculate Conception was 139. Six boys took second-class honours in the Cambridge local examinations, two of whom obtained exhibitions of 150*l.* per annum, each tenable for three years at an English university; and a third an exhibition of 50*l.* per annum, tenable in the Colonv.

18. Subjoined are the general remarks of the examiner appointed by the Syndicate of the Cambridge local examinations as to the results of the working of the Queen's Royal College and the College of the Immaculate Conception during the year:

"I have to express my entire satisfaction with the quality and general standard of knowledge evinced by the pupils of these colleges in the various branches of study embraced by my papers. There were very few failures in any subject, and although the work was, of course, elementary in character, it is evident that the methods of instruction are sound and efficient.

"The teachers of each college must be zealous and capable, and I should say that the Island enjoys great educational advantages in possessing two schools in such good working order."

Imports and Exports.

19. The following tables show the course of trade during the past three years, the total value of the imports and exports, and the value, exclusive of bullion and specie:—

Imports.

——	1880.	1881.	1882.
	£	£	£
United Kingdom - -	830,799	828,443	808,371
British Colonies - -	285,814	229,211	234,322
Foreign Countries - -	1,266,019	1,168,120	1,357,100

Exports.

——	1880.	1881.	1882.
	£	£	£
United Kingdom - -	1,163,791	995,924	1,076,456
British Colonies - -	77,621	112,016	137,627
Foreign Countries - -	944,099	991,160	1,237,948

Value of Trade (exclusive of Bullion and Specie).

Year.	Imports.	Exports.
	£	£
1880 - - -	1,830,448	1,630,295
1881 - - -	1,615,088	1,452,751
1882 - - -	1,612,563	1,729,420

Venezuela, the United States of America, and France are the States with which the principal foreign trade of the Colony is carried on. There has been a steady increase in the value of the exports to these three countries during the past three years, with the exception of Venezuela, with which the value of the export trade (that is, a transit trade in goods not the produce of the Colony), after increasing largely during the years 1879 and 1880, fell off by the amount of 119,090*l.* in the year 1882, a result attributable to the imposition by the Venezuelan Government of a differential duty of 30 per cent. ad valorem on goods imported from foreign Colonies in the West Indies:

20. From the annexed table it will be seen that the exports of the staple products of the Colony compare very favourably with those of the two preceding years:—

Description.	1880.		1881.		1882.	
	Amount.	Value.	Amount.	Value.	Amount.	Value.
		£		£		£
Sugar - - tons	53,384	858,081	43,608	668,153	55,326	875,269
Cocoa - - lbs.	10,999,385	302,358	10,809,796	266,613	10,972,687	316,736
Coffee - - „	35,130	1,039	41,870	1,175	38,204	941
Molasses - galls.	1,509,226	44,357	1,417,550	46,908	2,067,859	76,235
Rum - - „	28,793	2,510	935	103	1,909	264
Asphalt - tons	22,926	25,213	26,605	29,271	30,760	36,705
Coconuts - -	4,227,276	14,192	6,644,218	20,924	8,071,435	29,825
Bitters - galls.	23,614	23,702	28,708	28,708	30,638	30,633

Shipping.

21. The following table shows the number of ships, the tonnage, and proportion of steam to sailing vessels engaged in the trade of the Colony. It will be seen that while the general tonnage has increased, the sailing tonnage is decreasing and being replaced by steamers:—

—	Entered.				Cleared.			
	Tonnage of Vessels.		No. of Vessels.		Tonnage of Vessels.		No. of Vessels.	
	1881.	1882.	1881.	1882.	1881.	1882.	1881.	1882.
Sailing -	133,590	133,740	1,977	2,182	140,018	130,934	1,976	2,141
Steam -	280,486	287,917	245	248	279,785	287,372	244	247
Total -	414,076	421,657	2,222	2,430	419,803	418,306	2,220	2,388

Population.

22. The registered births numbered 5,403, the marriages 632, and the deaths 4,250; compared with 5,389, 559, and 5,006, in the year 1881. It is difficult to arrive at an exact estimate of the population, owing to the large immigration which is continually taking place between Trinidad, the adjacent Islands, and the mainland of South America; but, taking the population at not less than 157,628 inhabitants, the birth-rate was 34·28 per thousand, and the death-rate 26·97 per thousand.

Grants of Land.

23. The area of the Colony, approximating 1,120,000 acres, 337,203 of which have been alienated from the Crown, there still remain 782,797 acres undisposed of. The extent of acres sold in 1882 was 3,126, as against 7,479 acres in 1881. During the last 12 years some 93,680 acres of Crown lands have been sold.

24. An improvement in the administration of Crown lands was effected during the year by the transfer of the control of the Survey Office from the Director of Public Works to the direct supervision of the Sub-Intendant of Crown lands acting under the instructions of the Governor as Intendant.

25. The Land Charges Ordinance, 1879—under which public land charges, if unpaid at the expiration of 30 days, three months, or six months, become subject to increase at rates of 25·50 and 75 per cent. respectively, and by the provisions of which the land for which such charges are due becomes forfeited to the Crown if they remain in arrear for two full years—came into operation for the first time during 1882. The amount of land charges thus collected by the Crown lands office was 462*l.*, including percentage, 56 re-grants of forfeited land being made, and only 10 parcels sold under forfeiture.

Gaols and Prisoners.

26. The average daily number of prisoners in the gaols of the Island during the year was 562 as against 534 in 1881. The gross cost of the prison expenditure, including salaries, was 10,532*l.*, and the net cost of each prisoner was $3\frac{7}{8}d.$

Criminal Statistics.

27. The general crime rate, or the ratio to 10,000 of the population of the number of convictions in the Supreme Court was 7·7 as against 6·4 in each of the two preceeding years. There were 123 convictions in the Supreme Court, and 9,404 summary convictions in the magisterial courts, as against 99 and 8,962 in 1881. There were six convictions for murder as against nine in 1881. Out of the total of 15 murder cases for the two years

TRINIDAD.

9 were those of wife murder. The offences under the labour laws exceeded those for the year 1881 by 1,122. The statistics in the inferior courts show a decrease under every head save those of prædial larceny and breaches of the labour laws, which exceeded those for 1881 by 12 and 1,222 respectively.

General Remarks.

28. The public health was good during the year. The good crops and prices obtainable must have conduced to the general prosperity, the effects of which should be apparent in the revenue for the year 1883. The progress of the Colony continues steadily and surely; how great that progress has been may be measured by a comparison of the value of the trade for the year under review with the value in the year 1851. In the year 1851 the total value of the trade was 938,480*l.*; in the year 1882 it amounted to 4,851,826*l.* The value of sugar exported has been nearly trebled, and the value of the cocoa exported has been doubled. Looking to the large amount of Crown lands which have been sold during the last 10 years, and are being brought into cultivation, as well as to the steady increase in the coconut and asphalt trade, future progress equal to that of the past may, humanly speaking, be assumed to be secured.

S. FREELING,
(Signed) Governor.

BAHAMAS.

BAHAMAS.

No. 19.

Governor SIR C. C. LEES, K.C.M.G., to the Right Hon. the EARL OF DERBY.

Government House, Nassau,
August 3, 1883.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship the Blue Book for the year 1882, together with a report thereon which has been handed to me by Mr. Taylor, the Colonial Secretary.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. C. LEES,
Governor.

The Right Hon.
The Earl of Derby,
&c. &c.

REPORT on the BLUE BOOK of the BAHAMAS for the year 1882.

Taxes and Finance.

The financial condition of the Colony was most satisfactory.

The receipts at the Public Treasury from the 1st January 1882 to 31st December 1882 amounted to 46,085*l.* 10*s.* 3*d.*, which, with the balance in the chest on the 1st of January of 269*l.* 4*s.* 10*d.*, gave a total of 46,354*l.* 15*s.* 1*d.* The disbursements, which include the payment of the outstanding liabilities for the year 1881, of 539*l.* 18*s.* 5*d.* amounted to 43,522*l.* 3*s.* 3*d.*, leaving a balance at the close of the year of 2,832*l.* 11*s.* 10*d.*

The liabilities on the 31st December were 542*l.* 5*s.* 2*d.*, which being deducted from the sum that remained in the Treasury, a balance of 2,290*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* remained to the credit of the Colony.

Public Debt.

The public debt of the Colony on the 31st December 1882 amounted to 67,694*l.* 12*s.* of which 55,833*l.* 0*s.* 2*d.* is in debentures bearing interest at 6, 5, and 4½ per cent., and 11,861*l.* 11*s.* 10*d.* balance to the Widows and Orphans' Fund.

Under the authority of the Act 43 Vict., cap. 7, debentures of the value of 500*l.* were redeemed, and other debentures of the value of 1,503*l.* 13*s.* were also redeemed under the authority of the Act 13 Vict., cap. 6, making a total of 2,003*l.* 13*s.* paid towards the extinction of the public debt.

Imports and Exports.

The value of the imports and exports was respectively 216,575*l.* and 161,309*l.*

Compared with 1881, an increase is shown in the imports of 48,195*l.*

Much of this excess was due to the large quantities of goods adventitiously brought into the Colony by the wreck of the British s.s. "Blenheim" off the Eleuthera shore, and the stranding of the British s.s. "Athos" of the Atlas line at Inagua, and it was feared that such a glut of provisions and dry goods would diminish the importations from the United States and affect the revenue for 1883 from these sources.

The value of native produce exported in 1882 was 124,440*l.*, against 90,129*l.* in 1881.

This large increase of production was in pineapples, green and canned, cotton, sponges principally, being valued at 28,681*l.*, tomatoes, bananas, and cave earth, and guano.

Public Health and Temperature.

The Board of Health report that excellent health had prevailed throughout the Island of New Providence during the past year, that there had been no appearance of any contagious or infectious disease and a singular absence of the ordinary endemic affections common to the climate.

BAHAMAS.

The registrar's return of births and deaths shows as follows :—

Births.	March.	June.	September.	December.	Total.
New Providence -	88	70	93	89	340
Out-islands - -	178	306	305	372	1,161
	266	376	398	461	1,501

Deaths.	March.	June.	September.	December.	Total.
City of Nassau -	8	3	4	3	17
St. Agnes District -	30	29	29	19	107
Western District -	4	4	3	5	16
Eastern District -	33	28	34	36	131
St. Anne's Parish -	6	6	5	10	27
Carmichael - -	—	—	2	—	2
	81	70	77	73	300
Out-islands - -	115	118	133	118	484
Total -	196	188	210	191	784

Taking the population at 43,521, the rate of births to population is 34·48 per 1,000, and of deaths 18·03.

The mortality for 1881 was 819.

A disease of a formidable character made its appearance among the horses at San Salvador and Long Island in the latter part of the year; the affection was that known as cerebro spinal meningitis, destroying within a short time 300 horses and mules; no remedy had been found. During the same period a horse disease broke out in Oskaloosa, State of Iowa, United States of America, which in its symptoms was identical with that which visited San Salvador and Long Island.

This disease disappeared as suddenly as it broke out. No cause has yet been assigned for the outbreak; great drought had preceded the attack.

Through the kindness of the United States Consul, Honourable T. J. McLain, the method of cure adopted at Oskaloosa was made known to the authorities at New Providence. The Board of Health advised, and a medical officer was sent up to examine and report. A farrier who had a knowledge of the veterinary art was also despatched to the Island to administer the treatment prescribed by the Board of Health.

Four seizures had been made under the Act passed in 1881 to authorise the seizure and destruction of diseased and unwholesome articles of food, the articles so seized having been condemned and destroyed.

One hundred and seventy-four successful vaccinations have been performed in the Island of New Providence by the public vaccinator during the year, and supplies of lymph forwarded to the various out-islands of the Colony.

Continued vigilance had been exercised in the discovery and removal of causes tending to prejudice the public health.

Quarantine regulations have been rigidly enforced.

METEOROLOGICAL TABLE for 1882.

Month.	Temperature.				Rainfall.			
	Max. in Shade at 9 a.m.	Min. in Shade at 9 a.m.	Max. in Sun (24 hours).	Mean at 3 p.m.	Rain-fall.	No. of Rainy Days.	Max. Fall in 24 hours.	Date.
					inches.			
January - - -	78·0	66·0	141·2	75·7	0·71	7	0·24	25
February - - -	79·0	66·5	144·8	75·8	0·27	4½	0·11	4
March - - -	81·0	71·0	147·8	77·7	0·18	1	0·18	31
April - - - -	85·0	67·5	150·0	79·5	3·73	8	1·89	15
May - - - -	85.0	73·2	156·5	81·1	4·61	13½	1·30	12
June - - - -	88·2	80·0	151·5	86·2	2·82	12	0·92	10
July - - - -	88·5	72·0	157·0	87·6	3·89	19	1·02	13
August - - -	89·5	78·0	155·5	87·6	2·24	14	0·54	31
September - - -	89·0	74·0	156·5	85·3	3·16	11	1·17	30
October - - -	86·5	76·0	153·0	82·3	2·68	11	0·53	21
November - - -	82·0	68·5	143·8	76·7	0·72	9	0·18	3
December - - -	80·0	66·8	145·0	76·0	0·53	9	0·18	
Totals - -	1,011·7	859·5	1,802·6	971·5	25·54	119	8·26	—
Averages - -	84·3	71·6	150·2	81·0	2·13	10	0·69	—

Crown Land and Salt Ponds.

During the year 1882 there were three auction sales of Crown land, at which 31 country and 18 town and suburban lots, comprising 968¾ acres, of the value of 273*l.* 18*s.* 11*d.*, were disposed of.

The receipts for the year amounted to 428*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.*, and may be apportioned as follows: 148*l.* 10*s.* on account of sales in 1881 and 1882, 159*l.* 0*s.* 8*d.* on account of arrears and payments by squatters, and 120*l.* 16*s.* on account of unsold allotments.

Surveys were made of 88 country, and 79 town and suburban lots, comprising 2,089¼ acres at an expense of 245*l.* 7*s.* 8*d.* including an advance of 15*l.* on account of unfinished surveys, and 409¼ acres granted by 47 grants.

Only 3*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* was received in cash on account of salt pond purchases; the proprietors at Rum Cay being unable to pay in cash, 15,780 bushels of salt were received in payment, which will be sold and the cash proceeds brought to account.

Salt.

There has been another year of depression, while the season for making the salt has been remarkably good; few proprietors have cultivated, owing to the large quantities of salt on hand, and the absence of any demand therefor. The salt rakers, as those engaged in the occupation are called, are getting very poor, and the salt-producing islands are consequently sinking in importance.

BAHAMAS.

It is to be hoped that the United States will soon become free-trading communities and abandon the rigid protective system which includes a heavy duty on salt.

The quantity shipped was:—

	Bushels.
In 1881 - - - -	252,497
„ 1882 - - - -	142,528
	109,969

The value in 1882 was only 2,256*l.* against, in 1881, 4,571*l.*

Sponge.

The sponge beds which were discovered in 1881, lying off the coast of Eleuthera, are still yielding large quantities of sponges, giving employment to a great many persons.

During the year there was a large increase in the value of sponges exported. This was owing to the discovery of an extensive bed of sheep wool on the south side of Eleuthera. Previous to the discovery of this bed, the market price for this grade was about 4*s.* per lb. After that event, however, the quantity brought in was so large, that the price declined and went down as low as 2*s.* 6*d.*

The increase in the export is due to the increase in sheep wool shipped from the colony. There was a probable decline in most other grades. In the early part of the year the supply of this grade was somewhat in excess of the demand. It was brought in too rapidly to enable the exporters to work it up and pack it to advantage, and the excessive quantities shipped to London and the United States had a depreciating effect on those markets. In the latter part of the year, however, both the home and the foreign markets recovered, and prices again advanced to previous figures.

The shippers in Nassau represent large dealers in London, Paris, and New York, for whom they buy on commission. Considerable competition exists among them, and the prices paid in Nassau leave little margin for profit. The value of sponges, however, is steadily increasing year by year, owing, doubtless, to the extended use of the article in foreign countries.

Considerable additions have been made to the number of vessels engaged in the industry of collecting during the year. The vessels also are of an improved class, being larger, faster, and better fitted.

Fruit.

The value of pineapples shipped in 1882 was 32,692*l.* against 28,303*l.* for 1881. The crop was good and the prices realised in the foreign market were fair and remunerative.

Bananas are being shipped in larger quantities, the number of bunches exported in 1882 was 25,442, valued at 978*l.*, against 20,700 in 1881, valued at 813*l.*

The orange crop of 1882 was very small, and was valued at 3,507*l.*, against 4,986*l.* in 1881.

The quantity exported in 1881 was 4,103,590, in 1882 2,550,538.

The work of destruction is still carried on by the insect, whose ravages have been before described. All the proposed remedies fail in arresting the evil.

The Board of Agriculture forwarded to his Excellency the Governor, for transmission to Sir Joseph Hooker, K.C.S.I., C.B., of the Royal Gardens, Kew, for scientific examination, specimens of the insect in a free state and preserved in spirits in the hope that an expert in entomology would be able to describe the nature and habits of the insect and be able to give useful, practical hints for its destruction. Immediately on the receipt of the specimens of insects Sir J. Hooker referred the same to R. McLachlan, Esq., F.R.S., who had kindly undertaken to study the question. Dr. McLachlan submitted a selection of the specimens to his friend Dr. Victor Signoret of Paris for precise identification, that gentleman being well known as a specialist in connexion with the family Coccidæ, to which the insect in question belongs. He is of opinion that the insect is that which is now known as *Mytilaspis Citricola* (Packard) a species allied to, but distinct from, M. Gloverii, both of which specimens are notorious for occasioning damage to orange trees in the Southern United States.

According to Mr. T. Glovert's report of the United States Department of Agriculture, 1855, p. 119, the insect was first imported into Florida on some leaves sent from Bermuda, and it has since spread itself in an alarming manner.

The remedies now most in favour in the United States are liquids to be applied to the trees as sprays by means of a force pump, and it is of the utmost importance that these liquids be used during the short period of activity in the young larvæ, which can only be ascertained by direct observation.

The preparations now most in favour in the United States are as follows :—

Refined Kerosene oil - -	1 gallon
Condensed milk - - -	1½ parts
Water - - - -	3 „

The milk and water to be thoroughly mixed before the oil is added; the whole to be then churned until it solidifies, and then diluted with from 12 to 16 times its quantity of water when needed for application; or

Kerosene - - -	1 pint.
Sour milk - - -	2 fluid ounces.

BAHAMAS.

Two drachms of powdered chalk first added to the milk, and two ounces of water during the stirring; this is said to be not readily suspended in water and to form an imperfect emulsion.

Much information is derived by consulting the report of the entomologist of the United States Department of Agriculture for 1880 (by J. H. Comstock) and an article by H. S. Hubbard in Professor Riley's report of the entomology for the year 1882.

Manufactures.—Mills and Works.

The preserving factories are still active; 32,819 cases were shipped in the year 1882, valued at 10,154*l.*, against 20,580 cases in 1881, valued at 7,965*l.*

The sugar mills have been well employed; the cultivation of the sugar cane has been extended; it is easily cultivated; the black sort preferred on account of giving more saccharine matter; price per ton 1*l.* to 1*l.* 4*s.*, those cultivated in the white or sandy soil are not very saleable, they being watery with very little saccharine matter.

Price of sugar, 1*l.* 12*s.* per 100 lbs.
„ molasses, 1*s.* 6*d.* per gallon.

This industry bids fair to become important; if our farmers would each procure small mills they would earn a good livelihood by sugar making.

The season of 1882 was not good; a long continued drought followed the planting of the canes, by which many plants were lost.

The tinning of tomatoes is still kept up at Harbour Island, and they are shipped in large quantities to the United States.

Woods and Barks.

Braziletto.—The dye from this wood does not appear to be wanted in the United States (the only market), and therefor export has declined.

Ebony.—This is dye and not a furniture wood, and the colour, which at one time was fashionable, having ceased to be so, shipments therefore have gradually diminished, and at present have entirely stopped. It is used only in England.

Lignum vitæ.—This shows a small increase, which, however, is not likely to be maintained. Bahamas wood being small, is not much wanted in England; a considerable proportion has been sent to the United States.

Logwood.—The apparent increase in the export is due to wrecks of foreign wood, as the supply of native logwood is very much diminished, and will probably soon cease.

Sabica.—The demand for this wood is only occasional and limited, and the export varies accordingly.

Satin wood has materially declined, and the large merchantable wood in the Colony having become exhausted, and that of small dimensions not being wanted.

Barks.

Canella Alba.—A very small quantity seems to be sufficient to supply the demand in the London market, to which solely it is sent, and the quantity of late years has not varied a great deal; valued exported in 1882, 16*l.*

Cascarilla.—The decrease in quantity exported in 1882 has been occasioned by the continued low valuation in London. The expenses there in the way of dock dues are excessive in proportion to price, every package, however small, paying about 2*s.* 6*d.* in the shape of charges, such as landing rate, opening for customs, sampling, besides freight and commissions, brokerage, &c., therefore shipments become unprofitable and are checked.

The supply in the Bahamas is diminishing year by year.

Mail Service.

To ensure greater regularity and efficiency, as well as reduction in the amount of subsidy, an understanding was arrived at with the contractor by which the direct service to New York is resumed for the unexpired period of the contract, and from May 1883 a service will be provided superior in all respects to that which has hitherto been maintained. The saving effected in the amount of the subsidy was 600*l.* per annum.

Telegraphic.

Several companies have been in communication with the Government in respect to the establishment of telegraphic communication between these Islands and the United States, and definite proposals are promised. Her Majesty's surveying ship "Sparrowhawk" has been engaged in making a survey of the North-west Providence Channel.

Great International Fisheries Exhibition.

A central committee, of which the Colonial Secretary was appointed President by his Excellency the Governor, was formed with the view that the Colony should be represented on the occasion. Beautiful specimens of shells, corals, conch pearls, turtle shell, with models of fishing, turtling and sponging boats, fishing gear, and illustrating the mode of capture of fish, &c. were forwarded by the Committee for exhibition.

Prison.

This institution still maintains its creditable position.

The total number of prisoners committed during 1882 was 378, of whom 58 were for safe custody till trial or for want of security and 320 for penal imprisonment; of the last, 25 were convicted before the Superior Criminal Court, 5 were sentenced by Court-Martial, and the remaining 290 were committed by the police magistrate of New Providence and the justices of the out-

BAHAMAS.

islands. The numbers exhibit a considerable decrease compared with 1881, when the total commitments was 422.

Years.	No. of Commitments.	Daily average.	Population.
1873 - -	301	72·03	Census for 1871,
1874 - -	344	67·33	39,162.
1875 - -	353	71·55	
1876 - -	517	105·10	
1877 - -	386	83·57	
1878 - -	415	72·91	
1879 - -	365	71·72	
1880 - -	441	73·46	
1881 - -	422	79·80	Census for 1881,
1882 - -	378	62·74	43,521.

No person was imprisoned for debt in 1882. The number of persons for military offences has greatly decreased, there being only 5 in 1882, against 40 in 1881.

Of the 320 prisoners sentenced to penal imprisonment, 45 had been previously convicted once, 23 twice, and 129 three times or oftener.

The daily average number of prisoners was 62·74, 45·05 being males, 16·12 females, and 3·57 juveniles. The largest number in prison on any one day was 88 and the lowest 50.

One hundred and thirty four punishments were inflicted for breaches of prison discipline, 9 being reprimands, for first offences, and 125 solitary confinements.

The prisoners during 1882 were generally well-behaved. The establishment of the school has had a good disciplinary effect.

The expenditure of the prison, exclusive of the salary of the keeper and chaplain, which are fixed charges on the general revenue and are not provided for in the annual estimates amounted to 1,255*l.* 18*s.* 7*d.* As a set-off against this expenditure, a daily average of 44 prisoners was employed on the public roads, whose labour, estimated at 1*s.* 3*d.* per diem, would amount to 860*l.* 15*s.*, while six others were employed as cooks and yardsmen.

Religious services are regularly performed by the chaplain on Sunday morning and on Wednesday afternoon. Voluntary services are occasionally held by other ministers of the various churches, who are allowed free access to the prison, and are informed whenever prisoners of their respective denominations enter the prison.

A prisoner made his escape and has not since been captured. There were no escapes during 1881.

The school opened in 1881 is attended with highly satisfactory results. The Inspector of Prisons attributes the improved state of discipline and the diminution in the number of punishments to the influence exerted by the school.

Prisoners consider it a great privilege to be permitted to attend. The juvenile prisoners are taught in a separate class during the day from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The health of the prisoners generally during the year has been very good.

Fifty-seven cases were treated in hospital.

The prevailing form of disease has been diarrhœtic and dysenteric affections, the cases with few exceptions being readily amenable to treatment.

One death from interitis occurred in the month of February.

The excellent sanitary condition of the establishment has been maintained by the scrupulous attention to cleanliness observed in all parts of the prison, and required in the persons of the prisoners themselves.

Post Office.

The total revenue from all sources amounted to 1,959*l.* 8*s.* 2*d.*

Money orders for small amounts were issued. Orders issued in the United Kingdom, and payable in the Colony are insignificant in amount.

Ship letters show an increase of about one fifth.

Revenue from unpaid and insufficiently paid letters from foreign countries is gradually diminishing.

Receipts from the sale of postage stamps in Nassau amounted to 1,521*l.* 15*s.* 6*d.*, a decrease, as compared with 1881, of 127*l.*, attributable to a twofold cause, the abandonment of the mail service with the Southern States of America and the diminution in the number of liquor licenses under the Local Option Act.

In his report on the Post Office, the Postmaster General observes that "though the revenue shows a decided decrease, this "is due to the reduction in the amount of postage, and to other "changes incidental to the entry of the Colony into the Inter-"national Postal Union; that the reduction of postage is one of "the most excellent modes of reducing taxation, and is attended "with manifest advantages to the community in general by "stimulating increased correspondence, while the International "Postal Union, by bringing a Colony so isolated as ours into "connexion with the whole world through the most approved "method of communication, is yearly proving more and more of "a success.

"The disadvantages connected with the postal reduction and "improvements are made evident at the very beginning, but the "advantages to be derived from them, though they begin to take "effect from the first, only become evident after a considerable "lapse of time. The reality of the advantages is shown by the "fact that no country has ever given up the improvements which "experience has suggested, and of which so many have been "adopted in late years, or has returned to old systems of commu-"nication."

Hospital and Asylum.

The number of inmates admitted during 1882 was 95, including 164 moribund, total 259.

Of whom there were discharged -	114
Dead - - - - -	66
Remaining January 1883 - -	79
	259

The rate of deaths was 25 per cent.

The majority of those admitted were persons far advanced in their respective diseases.

The deaths due to old age and debility amounted to 18, one having been in the institution 25 years and 10 months, her age at death being 73.

Lunatic Asylum.

The number of inmates admitted during 1882 was six males.

The daily average number was, males 16, females 4.

Under the able management of the Resident Surgeon, Superintendent Dr. William Robinson, who arrived in the Colony in the latter part of 1882, these departments have been well administered. He, however, urgently calls attention to the limited accommodation and to the structural defects of the lunatic asylum, which militate against the employment of the varied curative agencies which are called for in successfully treating these afflicted persons.

This is a matter which the Government hope soon to be able to deal with when a more eligible site can be procured than that on which the present building is erected.

Leper Asylum.

Cases 10.
Deaths 1.

Education.

There were 27 schools in operation conducted on the British and Foreign School Society's system.

The compulsory system is in force in the island of New Providence.

Seventy-nine cases have come before the police magistrate; of these 43 were fined, 17 dismissed, and 19 orders were made to send the child or children to school.

The present estimated income is—

	£
Grants from the Legislature - -	2,200
Extra grants - -	300
	2,500

Agriculture.

The disposition to cultivate the land is becoming more and more evident; the Board of Agriculture obtained, through the kind offices of the Governor of Bermuda, good onion seed, which, being tried at the experimental garden at Government House and at the islands of Eleuthera and the Biminis, produced onions of a very large size and of delicate flavour.

There can be no doubt that with capital and enterprise the agriculturists of the Bahamas can prosecute this industry with great profit, and could easily compete with Bermuda in supplying

to the American markets onions and tomatoes far in advance of their own crops.

Pineapple cultivations are extending.

The crop of oranges was sadly diminished, owing to the ravages of the scale insect, which has extended to all parts of the Island.

As before remarked, all proposed remedies fail in arresting its progress.

The wages of the field labourer vary; usually 1*s.* 3*d.* to 1*s.* 6*d.* per diem. At shipping time the rates have been from 2*s.* to 3*s.* per diem.

Public Works.

Very many useful works have been executed. Among those are the conversion of the old gaolers' quarters into a neat and commodious office; the excavation of a tank in the public market place for the use of the public; the removal of the defective sash frames of Hog Island lighthouse, and replacement by iron frames and new burners; the building of a house for the assistant lightkeeper; repairs to Royal Victoria Hotel; the repair of the Adelaide Road on the southern side of the Island; this was effected by a grant from the Crown funds, sanctioned by Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Legislation.

Thirteen Acts were passed during the regular Session of 1882.

An Act for consolidating and amending the several Acts for regulating elections and the qualifications of members of the General Assembly of these Islands and of electors, and for ascertaining and describing the limits and bounds of the several islands and districts within the Government which send representatives to the General Assembly, and for other purposes.

An Act to amend the Liquor Act, 1875.

This Act introduces the principle of local option.

An Act to regulate the admission of insane persons into the New Providence Asylum and to provide for the release of such as shall be or shall be deemed to be no longer insane.

An Act to authorise the seizure and destruction of diseased and unwholesome articles of food in the Island of New Providence.

An Act to continue a grant of money for the encouragement of agricultural enterprises.

An Act to aid surveyors in the discharge of their duties.

An Act to amend the Act 23 Vict., cap. 3., to promote general vaccination.

An Act to exempt certain articles therein mentioned from import duty.

Petitions having been received by the Governor of the Colony from the sponge fishermen and others representing the destruction of the sponge fisheries on the Eleuthera shore by the use of

dredges, and asking for legislative protection, the Legislature was again convoked in August of 1882, and the following Acts were passed :—

46 Vict., c. 1. An Act for the protection of the sponge fisheries within the Bahama Islands.

46 Vict., c. 2. An Act to prohibit the importation into these Islands of dredges or other machines capable of being used as such which may be employed in gathering sponge.

In 1881, 26 informations were filed against 26 persons. In 1882, 34 informations against 32 persons.

In his report on the state of crime in the Colony during 1882, the Attorney General remarks: "In number and gravity the "offences charged in such informations were greater and more "serious than those dealt with in the preceding year."

"The charge of murder, which resulted in a conviction of man- "slaughter, apart from its serious character, disclosed a degree "of ignorance and superstition among certain of the lower classes "which was almost incredible, taking into consideration the ad- "vantages afforded these classes of the community by the religious "and secular educational agencies at work."

The total number of persons apprehended was 2,396.

The number of summary convictions in 1881 was 1,242; total number in 1882, 1,330.

The number of acquittals in 1881 :—

In inferior courts - - -	683
„ superior courts - - -	8

In 1882 :—

In inferior courts - - -	519
„ superior courts - - -	8

The returns show five cases of perjury tried during the year, in all of which convictions were obtained. It is to be feared that false swearing is an offence of frequent occurrence here, especially in the magisterial courts, but the strictness of the criminal procedure as to the requisites for proof of the offence is very difficult at times to secure convictions.

The cases of prædial larceny were of a very trifling nature.

(Signed) E. B. A. TAYLOR,
Colonial Secretary.

BERMUDA.

No. 20.

Governor T. L. J. GALLWEY to the Right Hon. the EARL OF DERBY.

MY LORD, Bermuda, May 19, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the Annual Blue Book of Bermuda for the year 1882, together with the report of the Colonial Secretary thereon.

I have, &c.

(Signed) T. L. GALLWEY,

Governor and Commander-in-Chief.

The Right Hon.
The Earl of Derby.
&c. &c.

REPORT on the BLUE BOOK for 1882.

No. 1. *Finance.*—The actual expenditure of the previous year, 1881, exceeded the actual revenue by 512*l.* 13*s.* 6*d.* The revenue of the year 1882 was 29,724*l.* 9*s.* 1*d.*; the expenditure was 29,138*l.* 5*s.* 3*d.*, leaving a balance of 586*l.* 3*s.* 10*d.*, or, carrying forward the nominal deficit of 1881, 73*l.* 10*s.* 4*d.*; but these amounts can only be taken as showing the difference between the actual revenue and the actual expenditure, as there were considerable sums in the hands of the Receiver General on the unexpended balances of money voted in previous years.

2. A comparative statement of revenue and expenditure for the years 1881 and 1882 shows the following results:—

Receipts

	£
1881 - - - - -	29,528
1882 - - - - -	29,724

Expenditure.

	£
1881 - - - - -	30,040
1882 - - - - -	29,138

The year 1882 may be taken therefore as an exceptionally healthy one, though the actual receipts of revenue were but little in excess of those in former years.

BERMUDA.

3. The public debt was reduced by 2,000*l.* including 500*l.*, value of glebe land taken under the Defence Act. In 1881 1,000*l.* was paid towards the reduction of the debt which on the 31st of December 1882 stood at 7,984*l.* 6*s.* 9*d.*

This amount is made up as follows :—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Balance of Causeway loan - -	3,390	0	0
Wharf and sheds' loan - -	1,500	0	0
Balance of amount used by public Treasury from savings' bank deposits - - - -	3,094	6	9
	7,984	6	9

The average rate of interest paid on the two first items is 4½ per cent., on the latter amount it is only 2½ per cent., and the total indebtedness of the Colony since 1868 had ben reduced from 36,793*l.* to 7,984*l.*

4. Since 1879 the excess of revenue over expenditure averages 753*l.* in each of the four years. Considering therefore that the public debt of the Colony has been materially reduced in each year it may safely be assumed that the present revenue is sufficient to meet the present expenditure, and to leave a fair margin.

5. The revenue and expenditure may be tabulated thus :—

Revenue.

——	Customs.	Other receipts.	Total.
Revenue - - -	£ 24,950	£ 4,774	£ 29,724

Expenditure.

——	Salaries	Miscellaneous.	Total.
Expenditure - -	£ 9,124	£ 20,014	£ 29,138

6. The assets of the Colony are a sum of money invested in Consols for the purpose of a new gaol at Hamilton. Estimated at par, this investment represents 5,600*l.*

7. A comparative statement of yearly revenue shows that in the customs the 5 per cent. ad valorem duty yielded an increase of

469*l.*; duty on spirits an increase of 228*l.*; duty on tobacco an increase of 63*l.* There was a decrease in the duty on malt liquor of 343*l.*; on oxen and cows of 40*l.*; and on rum of 211*l.* The total Customs return shows a decrease of 46*l.*, whilst in the return for miscellaneous taxation there will be found an increase of 196*l.*

The total decrease in the expenditure of the year was 902*l.*, which includes the following items:—

	£
Gratuities to public servants, a gain of -	300
Remittance of worn coins, a gain of -	400
Census expenses, a gain of - -	379
Roads and works, a gain of - -	1,370
Payment of public debt, a loss of - - (that is, 2,000*l.* is paid in 1882 against 1,000*l.* in 1881).	1,000
Defalcations of the late Col. Secretary, a loss of	645
Education, a loss of - - -	183
Salaries, a loss of - - - -	325
And drawback of duty, a loss of - -	249

No. II.—Local Revenue.

8. The local revenues were returned as follows:—

Revenue.

	£
Parochial - - - - -	1,361
Corporations, Hamilton - - -	1,976
St. George - - - -	728

Expenditure.

	£
Parochial - - - - -	1,645
Corporations, Hamilton - - -	1,849
St. George - - - -	717

The parochial revenues are raised by small parish rates, a dog tax of 4*s.*, and licenses to sell rum. The corporations levy a tax on sheds and wharfs, and a small inhabited house duty is collected.

The revenue raised from the civil population in 1881 gave an average rate of 1*l.* 14*s.* per head, and the local rates barely reached 10*d.*, lighter perhaps than anywhere else in Her Majesty's dominions.

* Less income tax deducted in the United Kingdom.

BERMUDA.

9. The following shows the amount spent in the Colony by the Imperial Government on the under mentioned heads:—

	£	s.	d.
Governor's salary - -	*2,199	13	4
Military establishment - -	96,932	15	9
	98,932	9	1

The cost of the naval establishment has not been returned.

No. III.—Legislation.

10. There were 27 Acts passed by the Legislature during the session. The most important of these being an Act to transfer from the Crown to the representative body of the church in Bermuda the appointments to vacant livings, the Act continuing the law which provides concurrent endowments to all denominations; amendments in the Criminal law improving the municipal constitution of the towns, and for fixing the standard of gold, which has put a stop to the importation of light and and worn coins. Provision was also made for the erection of a new Government house, a necessity which has long made itself felt, and a measure was passed for the resumption of unexpended balances in the public treasury, which goes far to simplify the state of the public accounts.

No. IV.—Civil Establishment.

11. The lamented death of the late Sir Robert Laffan, K.C.M.G., R.E., which occurred on the 22nd March 1882, created a vacancy in the governorship of the Colony. Colonel Gordon, R.E., administered the Government from that date until the third of July, when Lieutenant-General T. L. Gallwey, R.E., arrived and assumed the Government. The office of Colonial Secretary was filled on the same day by its present holder, and in the month of November Mr. G. W. Hill was appointed an official Marine Surveyor.

No. V.—Population.

12. The estimated civil population at the end of the year was put down at 14,559, composed of 5,847 white persons and 8,712 coloured. The average strength of the troops was returned at 1,446, of the women and children on the military establishment, 313.

No. VI.—Imports and Exports.

13. The total value of the imports was 277,401*l.* and of exports 109,155*l.*

This large disproportion may be ascribed to the circumstance that nearly every article required for the food and clothing of the entire population, civil, military, and naval, must be imported from abroad

The produce of the Colony consists almost entirely of early vegetables grown for the New York markets between the months of February and June, and these realised the sum of 107,317*l.* during the year. In 1881 the late Sir Robert Laffan estimated the Imperial expenditure at 220,000*l.*, for the maintenance of the garrison and naval establishments, and remarked that the industry of the inhabitants, and the favouring circumstances of the cliamte would have been insufficient to have maintained the Colony at its present level had it not been for the material help afforded by this very large expenditure.

No. VII.—Gaols and Prisoners.

14. The report of the Provost Marshal General gives full particulars of this service. A new goal, for which there are ample funds in hand, will prove most beneficial, and it is anticipated that, as soon as the preliminaries with regard to the proposed site have been settled, this most necessary work will be commenced without delay. Small though the daily average of prisoners is, the present accommodation is utterly inadequate for the wants of the Colony, and the buildings and general arrangements are most unsatisfactory.

No. VIII.—Criminal Statistics.

15. There is a considerable decrease in the number of offences reported to the police, and perhaps the average of crime in the Colony is smaller than in any other country. There were only 338 offences reported in 1882, against 460 in the previous year. The total of 1882 is made up as follows:—

Offences against the person - -	131
Prædial larceny - - - -	23
Offences against property other than prædial larcency - - - - -	38
Other offences - - - -	146

Two hundred and eight were dealt with summarily, and 25 were committed for trial in the superior courts.

The very small number of offences recorded is a remarkable and a healthy sign. The people generally are quiet and law abiding, and there is a noteworthy absence of cases classed under the heads of drunk and disorderly, prædial larceny, police offences, and abusive language which are so common in the magisterial courts of the West Indian Colonies.

No. IX.—Education.

16. There are no public schools properly so called in Bermuda, but the Board of Education grants subsidies to the various private schools towards the salaries of the teachers. There are 23 of these

schools, attended by 1,079 children. The amount contributed by the Board was 985*l.*, and a sum of 832*l.* was raised by voluntary subscriptions. There are 37 unaided private schools. During the past session, the Act of 1879, which has been found to work well, was amended in some few particulars, and its duration prolonged until 1885.

No. X.—Public Health.

17. The general health of the Colony during the year was fairly good, though the death rate was higher than usual. The prevalence of whooping cough in the earlier months may perhaps account for the large number of deaths. Amongst the children of the poorer classes this disease proved very fatal. The number of very young children who died is also large, the coloured population showing very little care for their infants. An epidemic of "Dengue" or "Breakbone" fever made its appearance in the summer, and spread very rapidly through the islands. Fortunately, however, it proved of a mild type, and in no case was it fatal.

No. XI.—Lunatic Asylum.

18. The report of the medical superintendent of the lunatic asylum gives full particulars of the working of this establishment. There were five admissions during the year, and 6 deaths, while the daily average of the patients was 31.

No. XII.—Shipping.

19. The following table shows the number of vessels entered and cleared during the year, and their tonnage.

Ve ssels entered.	No.	Tonnage.	Vessels cleared.	No.	Tonnage.
British - -	139	72,733	British - -	136	71,359
American - -	30	12,166	American - -	36	14,170
Ot -	21	9,488	Other Countries -	23	9,757
Total -	190	94,387	Total - -	195	95,286

CAVENDISH BOYLE,
Colonial Secretary.

Bermuda, 1st May 1883.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

No. 21.

EXTRACTS from REPORT on the RESULTS shown in the Blue Book for 1882.

Councils, Assembly, and Franchise.

By Proclamation of the 12th September 1878, the fifth Colonial Parliament was dissolved. The Legislative Council election was held in the month of November, and the per-centage proportions of electors who actually voted to those on the roll stood as under:—Western Electoral Province, 65·65; N.W. do., 35·98; S.W. do., 56·47; Midland do., 41·84; S.E. do., 34·16; N.E. do., 47·87 (average equal to 46·28). In the Eastern Electoral Province (5,191 voters) there was no poll. At the Council election for Griqualand West held in April, 1881, the proportion was 46·81.

The total number of electors registered in 1882–83 was 66,639. The lists then contained 10,774 more names than in 1880–1, and 21,964 more than in 1878–79. From the 1875 census report is derived the following (corrected) information:—Persons to a representative (House of Assembly), 10,602;* males to do., 5,435; electors to do., 632; persons to an elector, 17·44; males do., 8·94.

The franchise is determined by the occupation of house property of the value of 25*l.*, or receipt of salary at the rate of 50*l.* per annum (or wages of 25*l.* per annum with board and lodging).

Military.

The disbursements in 1881–82 on Colonial defence (Votes 26-32½) amounted to 216,449*l.*; besides 1,389,840*l.* expended under Acts 1 and 23 of 1881, and 31 of 1882, for suppression of native rebellion. Great Britain expended in 1882, 101,612*l.* for military protection, and 80,900*l.* on the navy at the Cape of Good Hope.

The regiment of Cape Mounted Riflemen is enrolled under Act No. 9 of 1878, and consisted on the 31st December 1882, of 42 officers and 922 non-commissioned officers and men; the corresponding figures for 1881 are 46 and 903. The number of horses is 868, and the corps has 807 Martini-Henry carbines, 378 revolvers, and 831 swords. Expenditure in 1881–82 on C.M.R. was 132,444*l.*

* *I.e.*, To every 10,602 of the inhabitants of the Colony there was in 1875 one member in the House of Assembly, and among every 17·44 persons one elector was registered.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

Under Act 15 of 1880, a force designated the Cape Field Artillery was constituted, consisting now of 85 officers and men, armed with 98 revolvers, 91 swords, and 38 carbines. The ordnance comprises 4 7-prs. R.M.L., 1 12-pr. Armstrong, and 1 mortar, 5½ in. Attached to the force are 73 saddle and draught animals. Expenditure in 1881–82, 10,774*l.*

A new addition to the colonial army is the regiment of Cape Infantry, which serves under Act No. 7 of 1881, and which consists of 20 officers and 384 of other ranks. This force is armed with 380 carbines.

The volunteer forces are subject to the provisions of Act No. 10 of 1878, and the strength in December 1882, of 22 corps was 105 officers and 2,078 men, including 17 officers and 343 men of cadet corps, an increase of 2 officers and 236 men on 1881. The number enrolled had reached the maximum in 1878, viz.: a total of 3,552. Equipment, 1,780 Snider rifles, 50 Martini-Henry carbines, 10 field guns. Expenditure in 1881–82 on volunteers was 9,139*l.*

The number of burghers registered in 1882, under section 14 of Act 7 of 1878, was 55,375. In connexion with the revision of the burgher list, &c., there was, in 1881–82, an outlay of 2,416*l.*

Revenue and Expenditure.

For the year 1881–82 the actual Colonial revenue was 3,524,858*l.* 6*s.* 10*d.*, an increase of 556,648*l.* 6*s.* 10*d.* on the estimated total, and of 514,888*l.* 0*s.* 3*d.* on the receipts in 1880–81, the previous maximum reached. Decreases, as compared with 1880–81, occur in only three instances, viz.:—Reimbursements, 934*l.* 13*s.* 6*d.*, owing to widows' pension fund receipts being included under miscellaneous; land sales, 9,055*l.* 13*s.* 2*d.*, on account of lands now being sold under perpetual quitrent; interest and premiums, 21,086*l.* 4*s.* 7*d.*, due to the fact that the collections for 1880–81 were chiefly made up by premiums on loans raised in England and interest on Griqualand West advances.

The chief increases on previous collections are—

	£		£
Customs and harbour dues	158,893	Revenue now being	1,356,947
Land revenue - -	19,005	„ „	108,139
Rent (exclusive of land) -	12,500	„ „	32,116
Transfer dues - -	17,541	„ „	146,604
Bank notes duty - -	5,050	„ „	18,732
Stamps and licenses -	34,482	„ „	213,434
Railway receipts -	227,650	„ „	966,856
Telegraph „ - -	8,483	„ „	63,224
Postal „ - -	17,798	„ „	109,887
Fines, Forfeitures, and Fees of Court - -	6,225	„ „	24,792
Fees of Office - -	3,818	„ „	10,562

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

The Transkei revenue, amounting to 36,490*l.* (against 29,920*l.* in 1880–81), has been posted under proper heads of service, and not as a separate item. House duty contributed 75,916*l.*; auction duty, 34,617*l.*; succession duty, 11,352*l.*; mines, 22,919*l.*; sales of Government property, 2,727*l.*; miscellaneous, 5,736*l.*; excise, 58,293*l.*; special, 26,888*l.* Including loans (1,367,927*l.*, and 614*l.* stores issued, the Colonial revenue for 1881–82 was 4,893,399*l.*

Basutoland revenue for the year 1881–82, amounted to only 4,877*l.*, the principal sources being hut tax, 2,750*l.*, licences, 1,708*l.*, fines, fees, &c., 195*l.* This is exclusive of 19,556*l.* borrowed. The receipts for 1877–78 were 18,712*l.*; for 1878–79, 15,551*l.*; for 1879–80, 19,782*l.*; and for 1880–81, 590*l.*

Expenditure under Acts of Parliament in 1881–82 amounted to 2,239,930*l.*, whereof 23,172*l.* was expended under Act 35 of 1879 (Immigration), 23,106*l.* went for raising loans for railway and bridge construction and for Griqualand West loans; 15,044*l.* was spent on the new Houses of Parliament; 75,238*l.* on harbour works; 16,583*l.* on bridges over Orange river; 382,418*l.* on the Western, 216,620*l.* on the Midland, and 62,620*l.* on the Eastern railway systems; 32,289*l.* for telegraph construction; and 1,389,840*l.* for the suppression of the native rebellion. The total outlay in the previous financial year, under similar authority, was 2,712,344*l.*

During the financial years 1880-81 and 1881-82 the sum total disbursed (Basutoland excluded), under votes was respectively 2,759,919*l.* 7*s.* 4*d.* and 3,280,867*l.* 5*s.* 3*d.*, viz.:—

—	1880–1.	1881–2.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Colonial Secretary, ministerial division - - - -	893,888 8 10	1,002,400 19 5
Treasurer-General - - -	771,239 15 6	933,022 17 4
Attorney-General - - -	43,747 7 1	46,009 9 5
Commissioner of Crown Lands and Public Works - -	934,475 5 10	1,176,875 16 5
Secretary for native affairs -	116,568 10 1	122,058 2 8

The corresponding figures for the four previous years were respectively 1,916,633*l.*, 1,660,016*l.*, 1,495,833*l.*, and 2,545,882*l.*

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

Debt.

On the 31st December 1882 the debt for the service of the general Government stood at 15,302,758*l.* 10*s.* 9*d.*, raised for the following services, viz. :—

Heads of Service.	1882.	The corresponding figures are	
		For 1881.	For 1880.
PUBLIC WORKS.	£ s. d.	£	£
Railways - -	10,241,300 0 0	7,353,600	7,431,700
Harbours - -	490,200 0 0	495,200	499,200
Orange River Bridges -	323,600 0 0	327,300	330,200
Telegraphs - -	57,700 0 0	58,700	150,000
Telegraphs and Kei Bridge	88,600 0 0	89,800	
Public Works - -	131,300 0 0	131,300	131,300
Houses of Parliament -	116,500 0 0	117,500	120,000
	11,449,200 0 0	8,573,400	8,662,400
OTHER PURPOSES.			
Immigration - -	97,500 0 0	99,700	119,000
Griqualand West liabilities - - -	302,400 0 0	308,300	308,300
War expenses - -	2,707,700 0 0	2,730,000	743,000
General purposes -	505,600 0 0	505,600	505,600
Consolidated debt -	135,900 0 0	139,200	141,000
Redeeming loan - -	104,458 10 9	104,459	104,459

and for harbour works under management of corporate bodies at 795,650*l.*; a net increase and a decrease respectively on the figures of 1881 of *2,842,100*l.* and 5,500*l.* The public debt was created in 1859.

Public Works.

Statement for 1881–82 rendered by Public Works Office : this is a return of expenditure on harbours, ordinary and new works, lighthouses, roads and bridges :—

Services.	Estimate.	Expenditure to 30th June 1882.
	£	£
Ordinary works—(1881–82) - - -	13,500	14,784
New works „ - - -	80,421	79,776
Lighthouses „ - - -	1,400	1,244
Roads and bridges „ - - -	98,282	69,793
Works under Acts of Parliament.		
Harbour works { Kowie (Bathurst) -	190,000	172,370
Harbour works { East London - -	400,000	376,490
Houses of Parliament - - -	120,000	37,680
Bridges over Orange River - - -	327,000	346,248
	1,260,603	1,098,385

* Actual Increase 3,000,000*l.* but 157,900*l.* were repaid.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

Railways.—Up to the 31st December 1882, a sum of 993,865*l.* had been used for the construction of the newly commenced railways which, it is estimated, will cost 3,954,636*l.**; 580,659*l.* being charged to Western, 291,759*l.* to Midland, and 121,447*l.* to Eastern railway systems; 10,516*l.* besides was spent on uncompleted railway surveys and the construction of Riet river bridge.

Telegraphs.—The expenditure on construction on new lines and erection of a second wire, to 31st December 1882, was 39,443*l.* for finished, and 66,233*l.* for unfinished works. Total estimated expense, 152,093*l.*

Harbour Works.—On the construction of the breakwater extension, the new jetty, and quay walls, the Table Bay Board had expended to 31st December 1882, 148,160*l.* The graving dock had been completed at a cost of 156,689*l.* The outlay for construction and repairs at Port Elizabeth was 218,554*l.* up to same date; these works were commenced in March, 1876.

Local Revenues.

In the Dutch churches, of which 52 were returned, the receipts stand at 68,166*l.*; 9,563*l.* coming from collections, 23,102*l.* from special contributions, &c., 8,768*l.* from church fees and special receipts, 4,950*l.* from pew and 9,717*l.* from land rents. Of the disbursements, 64,520*l.*, 19,846*l.* went for salaries, 22,465*l.* for works and buildings, and 7,129*l.* for church institutions. Loans to the extent of 8,393*l.* were raised, and debts and interest to the sum of 7,748*l.* paid off.

Sixty-five English churches sent in statements showing, on the credit side, 30,536*l.*, and on the debit 31,114*l.* Offertories contributed 16,126*l.*, English societies, with grants, &c., 10,697*l.*, and church fees and pew rents 2,005*l.* The stipends of the clergy amounted to 16,216*l.*, 6,899*l.* were sunk in works and buildings, 4,045*l.* were spent on education and divine service, and 1,191*l.* on church institutions.

Divisional Councils.—There are now 65 of these institutions, with a revenue and expenditure respectively of 180,528*l.* and 186,916*l.* These figures show an advance on those of 1881, 1880, 1879, 1878, 1877, and 1876, which are as follows, viz.:—Receipts, 161,767*l.*, 148,834*l.*, 131,444*l.*, 123,155*l.*, 144,153*l.*, and 144,988*l.*; Expenditure, 159,773*l.*, 155,395*l.*, 132,443*l.*, 120,261*l.*, 143,022*l.*, and 148,074*l.* On works the payments in 1882 were 115,316*l.*, besides the 2,662*l.* contributed under the Main Roads Act of 1864, and loans and interest figure at 28,814*l.* On the other side, road and other rates brought in 109,481*l.*; tolls and ferries, 25,306*l.*; loans and interest, 22,634*l.* According to the last returns the value of fixed property in the Colony (for divisional councils assessment purposes) is 34,106,918*l.* In

---

	£	
* Beaufort to Hope Town, Wynberg to Kalk bay -	1,576,930	Western System.
Cradock to Colesburg - - - -	657,706	Midland System.
Junction Line - - - - -	550,000	„ „
Queen's Town to Aliwal North - - -	1,170,000	Eastern System.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE

charge of the divisional councils there were, in 1882, 4,046 miles of main and 14,378 miles of branch, &c. roads. The rate in the pound levied varies from $\frac{1}{4}d.$ to $2\frac{1}{4}d.$

Municipalities, 69 in number, had an income of 357,648*l.* and expenses to the extent of 371,117*l.* in 1882. Taxes and water rates produce 100,987*l.*; market dues, 38,490*l.*; land and house rent. 52,828*l.*; loans, 109,394*l.*, and pound fees, sales, and leases, and registration fees and licenses, 16,176*l.* The maintenance, &c. of streets and other works of this nature necessitated the payment of 211,292*l.*, exclusive of 38,375*l.* for salaries and allowances for the establishment, and 38,562*l.* figures as the amount of debt and interest paid. Towards the cost of the urban police the municipal councils contributed in 1882 10,466*l.*, while in aid of that of the rural police under Act 8 of 1873, divisional councils paid in 9,255*l.* The income in previous years stands as follows:—

	£
1881 - - - -	207,231
1880 - - - -	148,594
1879 - - - -	127,896
1878 - - - -	142,701
1877 - - - -	111,994
1876 - - - -	90,215

And the outlay thus:—

1881 - - - -	234,316
1880 - - - -	167,727
1879 - - - -	129,803
1878 - - - -	136,567
1877 - - - -	109,567
1876 - - - -	91,348

Customs.

Shipping.—The total number of vessels entered inwards in 882 was* 2,328, of 3,058,876 tonnage, a net increase of 16 in number and of 517,966 in tonnage on 1881; of these, 1,935, measuring 2,858,906 tons, were British, and 393, of 199,970 tons, foreign vessels, against 1,874 of 2,327,797 tons, British, and 438 of 213,113 foreign in 1881. Cleared outwards in 1882 there were† 2,331, of 3,034,015 tonnage, a net increase on 1881 of 71 in number, and of 507,424 in tonnage; of these, 1,942, of 2,837,636 tons, were British, and 389, of 196,379 tons, foreign ships compared with 1,854 of 2,334,767 tons, British, and 406 of 191,824 tons, foreign, in the previous year. The vessels inwards, of which‡ 2,263 of 3,028,240 tons had cargoes, were manned

* 1,377 vessels being steamers of 2,663,629 tonnage, 368,124 horse power.
† 1,359 „ „ 2,636,367 „ 363,018 „
‡ 1,349 „ „ 2,642,324 „ 365,144 „ with crews numbering 82,572.

by 92,818 sailors, and those outwards, of which* 1,746 of 2,682,083 tons had cargoes, by 85,033. Vessels to the number of 2,260, of 2,514,730 tons, entered with cargoes in 1881, and 1,691, of 2,253,313 tons, left the colonial ports. The coastwise trade inwards gave employment to† 1,365 vessels having 66,352 seamen on the books, and whose tonnage totalled to 2,040,699; the corresponding figures for transactions outwards were‡ 1,365, 65,184, and 2,013,027 respectively. In regard to nationality of shipping inwards, it appears that 1,626 vessels (2,828,050 tons) belonged to the United Kingdom, 309 (30,856 tons) were Colonial, 27 (18,373 tons) American, 20 (12,822 tons) Austrian, 15 (2,817 tons) Danish, 4 (810 tons) Dutch, 24 (20,587 tons) French, 63 (24,111 tons) German, 85 (58,580 tons) Italian, 154 (61,370 tons) Norwegian and Swedish, and 1 (500 tons) Russian. The number of vessels belonging to the port of Cape Town was 33, of 2,497 tons, and to the port of Port Elizabeth 4, of 551 tons.

Imports and Exports. — The total value (specie excluded) of imports in 1882 was 9,372,019*l.*, and of exports 4,514,098*l.*, showing an increase respectively of 144,848*l.* and 293,392*l.* on the figures for 1881, which in turn were respectively 1,578,308*l.* and 120,311*l.* in excess of and below those for 1880.

In respect to the United Kingdom, the value of the imports from had increased by 265,519*l.*, and that of exports to by 205,685*l.*; the figures being respectively in 1882 7,584,774*l.* and 4,120,201*l.*, and in 1881 7,319,255*l.* and 3,914,516*l.* As regards British possessions, the value of imports from had decreased by 82,129*l.*, and of exports to by 46,978*l.*; the figures being respectively in 1882 814,301*l.* and 77,784*l.*, and in 1881 896,430*l.* and 124,762*l.* As regards foreign countries, the value of imports from had decreased by 43,504*l.*, but of exports to had increased by 35,732*l.*, the values being respectively in 1882 967,964*l.* and 217,160*l.*, and in 1881 1,011,468*l.* and 181,428*l.*; specie (not included in the foregoing figures) was imported and exported to the extent respectively of 288,622*l.* and 54,858*l.* The entries for home consumption in 1880 represented a value of 7,546,779*l.* or 98·66 per cent. of the total imports; in 1881 a value of 9,029,246*l.* or 97·855 per cent., and in 1882 one of 9,256,960*l.* or 98·77 per cent. of the imports. The per-centage increase of imports in 1881 on 1880 is 20·414, of consumption 19·422, and per-centage decrease of exports 3·043. Corresponding figures for 1882 compared with 1881 are 1·57, 2·522, and (increase) 4·628. Colonial produce was sent away in 1882 to the value of 4,331,626*l.*, an increase of 191,584*l.* on 1881. The approximate value of the total exports of the Colony in 1882 is calculated by the Collector of Customs as follows, viz.:—Colonial, 4,331,626*l.*,

* 1,301 vessels being steamers of 2,551,220 tons, 352,916 h.p., with crews numbering 80,708.

† 1,092 vessels being steamers of 1,999,079 tons, 277,938 h.p., with crews numbering 64,585.

‡ 1,068 vessels being steamers of 1,966,034 tons, 272,884 h.p., with crews numbering 63,207.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

other 182,472*l.*, diamonds 5,000,000*l.*, total 9,514,098*l.* (excluding specie 54,858*l.*). The decrease in the quantity of wool exported in 1882 compared with 1881 is 2·528 per cent., and in value 5·488; 1881 returns as compared with those for 1880 showed an excess of ·710 per cent., and diminution of 10·185.

Wages and Rent.

The statistics collected on the following subjects, viz.:—wages and rent, prices of provisions and clothing, of agricultural produce and of stock, are exhibited in four divisions; the first area comprises the coast districts, the second those inland districts which have more or less direct railway communication with seaports, the third and fourth inland divisions.

The wages of farm overseers and of servants, both agricultural and domestic, ruled higher than in 1880–79–8, and 7, but lower than in 1881. The rates for ordinary labourers show an advance on those for last year: the average rates are now for European overseers 4*l.* 8*s.* per mensem, with board and lodging; farm servants, 2*l.* 10*s.*; and labourers 4*s.* 2*d.* per diem with food; for European male domestics 73*s.* 5*d.* per month with board and lodging, and female 26*s.* 9*d.* with ditto. The average rate of wages for tradesmen now is, European 11*s.* 6*d.*, and coloured 6*s.* 3*d.*, a decrease and increase respectively of 2*d.* and 1*d.* per diem on 1881. Classifying the occupations we arrive at the following results for 1882, viz.:—

		European Tradesmen.	Coloured Tradesmen.
		s. *d.*	*s.* *d.*
Workers in art and mechanic productions - -	average rate	12 0¼ p. d.	6 6 p. d.
Workers in dress and fibrous material - - -	„	11 10 „	6 4 „
Workers in animal and vegetable substances - -	„	8 3½ „	5 7½ „
Workers in minerals -	„	13 2¼ „	6 5¼ „

Payments to European workmen show an increase on 1880, 1879, and 1878, the figures then were 9*s.* 7*d.*, 9*s.*, and 8*s.* 7*d.* per diem (average) respectively. A labourer's cottage may be procured for 1*l.* 16*s.* per month, and a town lodging for a mechanic's family costs about 3*l.* 14*s.* per month.

Provisions and Clothing.

Luxuries and necessaries of life are, on the whole, more expensive than in 1880 and 1881; in 1879 they were cheaper than in 1877 and 1878. Mutton is 7¾*d.*, beef 7*d.*, and pork 1*s.* 0¼*d.* a pound, which is above the average; butter shows a

rise of 1*d.* per lb. on last year; coffee, tea, salt, milk, lamp-oil, and brandy are disposed of on very slightly lower terms; oatmeal, flour, sugar, rice, and raisins remain at the same figures; but candles, pepper, tobacco, beer, cheese, and wine are dearer. Clothing for labourers is above the average of six years' prices, and bedding and articles of ordinary haberdashery are more costly than in 1881.

Customs returns for 1882 indicate imports under the headings food, drink, and clothing to the following values, viz.:—ale and beer, 177,203*l.*; butter, 73,674*l.*; coffee, 146,750*l.*; cheese, 44,123*l.*; flour, 136,303*l.*; lard, 12,978*l.*; meat (salted and cured), 51,607*l.*; malt, 21,377*l.*; rice, 42,039*l.*; sugar (refined), 16,211*l.*; tea, 39,920*l.*; apparel and slops, 633,136*l.*; cotton manufactures, 618,435*l.*; haberdashery, 808,626*l.*; hats, 83,708*l.*; leather manufactures, 498,340*l.*; linen manufactures, 60,892*l.*; woollen ditto, 394,657*l.* Candles to the value of 53,476*l.*, and lamp and mineral oil to that of 21,616*l.* passed the customs.

Land cultivated.

The area of holdings in 1865 was 20,464,602 morgen; in 1875 it had reached 39,947,734 morgen, distributed as follows:—29,814,182 quitrent, 6,797,811 leases (Act 19, 1864), 2,873,457 other leases, 40 outspan, and 462,241 freehold. In 1865 the extent cultivated was 217,692 morgen; the corresponding figures for 1875 are 274,413 morgen. Vine stocks were returned as numbering 69,910,215 in 1875, when 4,485,665 imperial gallons of wine and 1,067,832 of brandy and spirits were manufactured. According to the 1875 census the production of the various crops was as follows:—Wheat, 1,687,935 bushels; barley, 447,991; rye, 214,260; oats, 937,363 — 100 lbs. weight, besides 918,494 bushels; maize and millet, 1,113,007 bushels; peas, &c., 60,636; potatoes, 371,523; tobacco, 3,060,241 lbs., and dried fruits 2,672,761 lbs.

Agricultural Produce.—Prices of cereals fell suddenly after the close of 1878, when the rates had reached the highest known for some time, and they now show an increase on the whole on those for 1881, 1880, and 1879, the rates for which latter year were slightly in advance of those quoted for 1876. Wheat now sells at 10*s.* 9½*d.* per bushel, 1¼*d.* over the average of seven years' returns; barley for 6*s.* 2*d.*; rye at 8*s.* 5½*d.*; oats at 8*s.* 0½*d.*; maize, 9*s.* 8*d.* per bushel; potatoes are 7*s.* 0½*d.*; and peas and beans, 11*s.* 1½*d.* per bushel. Taking the figures for 1882 and the six previous years, the following average prices have been computed, viz.:—Wheat, 10*s.* 8¼*d.*; barley, 6*s.* 6¼*d.*; rye, 7*s.* 4*d.*; oats, 7*s.* 8*d.*; maize, 9*s.* 5*d.*; peas and beans, 10*s.* 9¾*d.*; and potatoes, 7*s.* 5¼*d.* per bushel. Wine, first quality, was 18*l.* per leaguer in 1876, 10*l.* 17*s.* in 1878, 13*l.* in 1879, 21*l.* 3*s.* in 1881, and has now fallen in price to 17*l.* 4*s.* Brandy is disposed of at the rate of 31*l.* 6*s.* per leaguer, against 43*l.* 4*s.* last year; in 1877 it was as low as 17*l.* 10*s.* Dried fruits cannot be bought for less than 8¼*d.* per lb. Importations to the following values occurred in 1882, viz.:—Barley, 10,183*l.*; maize, 31,217*l.*; oats, 1,717*l.*;

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

wheat, 240,441*l.*; fruits (dried and green), 12,717*l.*; spirits, 149,807*l.*; wine, 67,430*l.*

Stock and Animal Productions.

A comparison of the results of the two censuses gives the following centesimal increases and decreases in the numbers of live stock between 1865 and 1875, viz.:—Horses,—9·10, mules and asses, + 20·71. Cattle (draught) + 69·18, other + 55·68. Sheep (woolled) + 19·55, other — 32·44. Angora goats + 623·07, other — 5·56. Pigs + 48·40. The number of domesticated ostriches had risen from 80 to 21,751, and the production of wool had been augmented 49·72 per cent. British Basutoland was included in the 1875 census, and the inhabitants thereof possessed 35,257 horses, 217,417 cattle, 289,807 sheep, and 160,754 goats. Enumerations of live stock in the Transkeian districts are fairly complete, and 43,248 horses, 305,341 cattle, 484,443 sheep, 187,623 goats, and 13,917 pigs have been returned as belonging to residents there, who possess 1,059 waggons, and 9,972 ploughs.

Prices of live stock which had been gradually rising for some time past are now on the decline, except in the case of asses, Cape, and woolled sheep and goats; animal productions are generally slightly cheaper than usual. Horses are now disposed of at from 21*l.* 14*s.* to 22*l.* 9*s.* per head, mules, 21*l.* 9*s.*, asses 7*l.* 16*s.*, oxen and cows from 9*l.* to 9*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.* Slaughter sheep sell now at 1*l.* 1*s.* 3*d.* each, woolled sheep 19*s.* 6*d.*, and goats at 18*s.* 5*d.* Fowls and ducks are quoted at 4*s.* 4½*d.* a couple.

Manufactories, &c.

When the 1875 census was taken particulars were collected as to the number of agricultural implements and industries. It will be sufficient to mention, however, that the value of such implements and machinery, imported since the beginning of 1875 is, according to the customs returns, no less than 346,906*l.* Regarding manufactories in the towns and villages the information is as yet defective. Boot works were 136 in number in 1882, brick ditto 179, confectionery 27, cooperage 22, guns 11, foundries 14, iron and tin works 111, printing 64, saddlery and harness 115, waggons and carts 334, fish-curing 50, gas 3, glass 1, boat-building 10.

Mines.—The most noted are Manganese (Paarl division): Copper Ore (Namaqualand division): exports in 1882 19,669 tons, value 394,030*l.* Per-centage 28 at O'okiep, where output was 15,744 tons, and 37·44 at Spectakel (output 1,874 tons in 1882). Coal, Wodehouse division, 1,766 tons, valued at 1,766*l.* raised in 1882, at Spriggton, Indwe, to connect which with the Eastern railway system advantages are held out by the Government under authority of the Imvani and Indwe Railway Coal Mines Act of 1882. Albert division: Cyphergat and Molteno mines. Diamonds.—The annual value of the mines in the Kimberley division, owned by Government and the South African Exploration

Company was returned as follows in 1881:—Kimberley mine, 5,000,000*l.*; Old De Beer's, 3,000,000*l.*; Du Toit's Pan, 2,906,000*l.*; Bultfontein, 1,003,000*l.* The following is an abstract of the operations at the mines in the Kimberley division in 1881:—

1881.	Kimberley Mine.	Old De Beer's.	Du Toit's Pan.	Bultfontein.
Value	£5,000,000	£3,000,000	£2,906,000	£1,003,000
Assessment	£2,860,717	£2,063,375	Not assessed.	Not assessed.
Loads of "blue" washed	600,000 p. a.	1,580,000 p. a.	20,000 p. d. hauled 15,000 „ washed	8,000 p. d. hauled 7,500 „ washed
Yielding, carats	900,000	300,000	Not stated.	Not stated.
Valued at	£1,575,000	£600,000	„	„
Loads of "reef" removed	1,665,258	407,482	„	„
White men employed	700 to 850	260	1,000	1,000
Coloured men employed	2,500 to 4,000	1,800	8,000	4,000
Engines, number	86	49	Not stated.	Not stated.
Horse-power of engines	1,030	590	„	„
Tramway, miles	12	6½	„	„
Horses, mules, and oxen, number	600	265	„	„
Claims	420	610	1,453	1,003
Rates	2½*d.* in £ p. m.	1*s.* 5*d.* in £	—	7*s.* p. m. per claim
Area, acres (1882)	8·7	9·7	31	22

And in the subjoined tabular statement the information regarding the same mines is continued and amplified:—

1882.	Kimberley.	Old De Beer's.	Du Toit's Pan.	Bultfontein.
No. of claims	420	610	1,490	1,050
Depth of lowest worked claim	400 feet	270 feet	197 feet	180 feet
Total cubic yards of solid ground excavated	6,600,000	2,800,000	5,400,000	4,500,000
No. of individuals or firms holding claims	39	33	40	35
Ground hauled	1,100,000 lds. p.a.	1,425,000 lds. p.a.	15,150 lds. p. d.	9,473 lds. p. d.
Carats of diamonds realized	1,050,000	760,625	Approximate	Not stated.
Value	£1,575,000	£1,140,937	„	„
Employés white	700	300	418	274
Employés coloured	4,000	2,000	3,235	2,685
Tramway—miles of, laid	12	12	68	41
Gears—Hauling No.	48	26	49	29
Gears—Hauling H. P.	809	342	650	376
Washing No.	27	20	42	30
Washing H. P.	226	162	437	271
Other No.	21	19	42	23
Other H. P.	217	137	256	151

At diggings on the Vaal river, from Hebron to Delport's Hope, about 450 men are at work. The revenue from diggers' licenses issued in 1882 in Barkly division, was, owing to abandonment of claims by the river companies, and cessation of work at Newlands No. 1 and Victoria, only 3,327*l.*

The gross weight (avoirdupois) of diamonds, contained in packages, which passed through the post office at Kimberley during the last five years is as follows:—

	lbs.	oz.		£
1876	773	15	estimated value	1,807,532
1877	903	15	„	2,112,427
1878	1,150	0	„	2,672,744
1879	1,174	4	„	2,846,631
*1880	1,440	12	„	3,367,897

* 1881: 1,501 lbs. weight, 2,331,840 carats.
1882: 1,666 „ 2,602,880 „

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

Fisheries.—261 boats and upwards of 1,400 persons are engaged in connexion with the sea fisheries on the coast of the Colony. Quantity and value of salted or cured fish exported in 1882 was respectively 4,066,787 lbs. (weight) and 26,334*l.* value.

There are large salt pans in the following divisions:—Simon's Town (produce 7,000 bushels), Malmesbury (1,500 tons per annum), Clanwilliam (2,000 bushels), Piquetberg (40,000 sacks), Calvinia, Fraserburg, Bredasdorp (6,000 muids), Riversdale (60,000 lbs.), Uitenhage (15,000 bags), Cradock (4,000 muids from one pan), Herbert (annual yield about 30,000 muids).

Mineral springs abound and are well resorted to. Accommodation for invalids is as a rule indifferent.

Lands Granted and Sold.

The extent of acres granted during 1882 was 552,860 against 228,465 in 1881, and sold 2,136,744 against 2,907,802. The area of the Colony approximating 131,711,600 acres, 80,636,541 of which have been disposed of, there are 51,075,059 acres still ungranted. In 1882 there were 986 cases disposed of under the land laws, the number settled by purchase being 540, and the purchase amount 49,811*l.*, and by grant 446, the annual quitrent being 9,956*l.* The corresponding figures for 1881 were respectively 859; 708, 63,707*l.*; 151, 11,537*l.* The majority of grants were in the class "under 50" morgen of ground, the number actually being 565, representing 2,171 morgen of land; 390 were over 250 morgen, while 31 were between 50 and 250 morgen. The number of transactions, more than half of which can be accounted for in six divisions, was highest (111) in East Griqualand, and the extent dealt with (166,141 morgen) greatest in Carnarvon division. In 11 divisions there were no operations in 1882.

Banks.

The amount of coin in circulation and hoarded appears to be about 5,539,338*l.*; this is estimated from the balance of imports over exports since 1825, and the sum in banks' coffers on 31st December 1882. The number of banking institutions in operation at the close of 1882 was 10, the nominal capital of which totalled to 6,388,930*l.*, and paid up 2,032,245*l.* Shares numbered 123,018; the reserve fund stood at 801,406*l.*, and the note circulation (31st December) at 942,208*l.*

Assets and Liabilities.—The total transactions for the six months ended 31st December 1882, viz., 16,102,849*l.*, show an increase on the corresponding periods of other years except 1881. Comparing the statements for the last half of each year since and including 1875, it will be seen that the amount of coin in the coffers was highest in 1881 (1,717,124*l.*), drafts on Treasury highest in 1880 (71,409*l.*), notes and cheques in 1881, balances in other banks in 1879 (3,868,160*l.*), value of buildings in 1882, bills and notes under discount in 1881 (10,536,114*l.*, *i.e.*, 1,058,012*l.* more than in 1882, the next highest), bills and notes overdue and unpaid in 1882, accounts overdrawn in 1876, and other debts in 1882 (2,070,086*l.*). As regards liabilities, capital

paid up stood at the maximum in 1881; reserve fund which had steadily risen from 180,160*l.* in 1875 to 244,889*l.* in 1879, fell in 1880 to 107,682*l.*, rose to 191,274*l.* in 1881 and 196,406*l*, in 1882; notes circulated on 31st December show a decrease of 315,278*l.* on 1881, the maximum yet reached; post bills were largest in amount in 1876, fixed deposits having grown from 2,379,743*l.* in 1875 to 5,719,004*l.* in 1881, diminished to 5,293,447*l.*; floating deposits are 637,166*l.* smaller than in 1881; balances in other banks were highest in 1881, interest was so in 1879, bills payable in 1881, and profit and loss in 1876.

Government Savings Bank.—On the 31st December 1881, 1,420 depositors had 21,485*l.* (capital and interest) to their credit, and in December 1882 there were 1,729 depositors with 24,038*l.* of capital, and 627*l.* of interest due; the corresponding figures for 1880 show 1,282 depositors, with 20,086*l.* of capital and 548*l.* of interest due. During 1882 649 accounts were opened and 16,414*l.* paid in, and 340 closed, and 13,861*l.* withdrawn; the amount of interest paid was 100*l.*

In the Cape of Good Hope Savings Bank the receipts from depositors amounted in 1882 to 123,416*l.*, and the repayments to 115,175*l.*; interest was allotted on open accounts to the extent of 11,170*l.*, besides 907*l.* on accounts closed. The sum to the credit of depositors was 276,952*l.*, an increase of 20,143*l.* on 1881. Accounts to the number of 1,512 were opened and 1,198 were closed; the total number open in December 1882 was 5,845. At Graham's Town and King William's Town are also savings banks. In the first-named 2,158 depositors had 15,168*l.* to their credit, 12,732*l.* was deposited, and 12,888*l.* withdrawn, and in the second to 1,341 individuals 28,532*l.* was due, and 17,482*l.* was deposited, and 19,214*l.* withdrawn. Returns have been rendered by a similar institution at Kimberley (570 depositors, 23,116*l.* to credit, 49,916*l.* deposited, 52,551*l.* withdrawn). There is now no savings bank at Du Toit's Pan.

Population.

The last census was taken in March, 1875, and the population of the Colony was returned as follows:—European or white 236,783, Malay 10,817, Hottentot 98,561, Fingo 73,506, Kafir and Betshuana 214,133, mixed and other 87,184. or 720,984 in all, of which 369,628 are males, and 351,356 females.*

By adding to that of the Colony, as it existed in 1865, the population of British Kaffraria (since annexed) the true increase in the decade is obtained, it is as follows:—

Number -	138,402.	European or white	47,008.	Coloured -	91,394.
Per cent. -	23·756.	„ „	24·770.	„	23·267.

To every 100 males of the total population there were 95·06 females. According to race, there were to 100 males, amongst Europeans, 91·09 females, amongst coloured 97·06 females. In 1875 there were to the square mile 3·60 persons, of whom 1·18 were white and 2·42 coloured. The number of inhabited

* For population of remainder of Colony (Griqualand West and East) *see* paragraphs 43 and 44.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

dwelllings was 55,212, exclusive of 76,022 inhabited huts and tents, and the number of persons to an inhabited dwelling is 5·49. Under 15 years of age there were 314,516 persons; between 15 and 55, 352,399; from 55 and upwards 43,000; and 11,069 were of unspecified age. In regard to education 62·35 per cent. whites and 6·17 coloured could read and write, and 3·93 per cent. white and 4·08 coloured read only.

Conjugal Condition.— 1. Regular Marriages. — There were among European or whites 36,044 husbands and 34,777 wives, with 2,124 widowers and 4,817 widows. Bachelors (20 years and upwards) numbered 20,446, and spinsters (15 and upwards) 21,367. 2. Irregular Marriages.—To 55,768 wives there were 50,375 husbands, with 1,299 widowers and 8,179 widows.

About 4,228 marriages are contracted annually, the number in 1877 being 3,778; in 1878, 3,721; in 1879, 4,248; in 1880, 4,542; and in 1881, 4,851.

Religions.—The number of persons belonging to the principal creeds is:—

—	European or White.	Coloured.
Protestants - - - -	225,126	139,963
Catholics - - - -	8,666	1,001
Jews - - - - -	538	—
Mahommedans - - - -	18	11,196
Others - - - - -	15	8

2,237 European or white were of no religion, as were 331,810 coloured, and 406 refused to state their religious beliefs.

Birth-places.—Of the European or white population, 204,529 were born in British possessions in Africa, and 1,334 in other African States. 22,032 persons had come from Great Britain, and 749 from other British possessions; 131 were born at sea. Of 843 the birth-places were unknown or unstated. In France 239 were born; in Germany, 4,685; in Holland, 879; in Norway, Sweden and Denmark, 421; in United States of America, 264. From British possessions in Africa (outside the Colony), 1,066 persons had come.

Infirmities.—As regards race, the largest proportion of the infirm occurs among Malays; of blind among Fingos; of idiotic, males among Malays, females among Fingoes; of lunatics, males among mixed and other, females among Hottentots. The number of European or white infirm under 15 years of age is greater in proportion to the population than it is in the coloured races; and at higher ages the proportion is reversed only in blind and idiotic. Thetotal number of infirm in 1875 was 2,627, exclusive of 52 lepers.

Occupations.—The professional class comprise 7,916 persons, or 1·098 per cent. of the total population; domestic, 83,266, or 11·549 per cent.; commercial, 13,317, or 1·847; agricultural, 209,136, or 29·007; industrial, 24,279, or 3·367; indefinite and non-productive, 383,070, or 53·132 per cent.

Basutoland.—In 1875, there were only 469 European or white persons among the 128,176 inhabitants of the territory.

Transkei.—The total population was returned as follows in 1879, viz:—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Griqualand East - - -	37,758	40,594	78,352
Tembuland - - - -	47,631	50,899	98,530
Transkei - - -	39,620	44,405	84,025
	125,009	135,898	260,907

Griqualand West.—The census of Griqualand West was taken in 1877, and gave the following results:—European, males, 7,384; females, 4,990; all others, males, 20,360; females, 12,543; in all, 45,277.

Gaols.

During the year 1882 the names of 35,310 persons (of whom 3,567 were females), were registered in the prison records; 13,513 of these were Christians, 2 Jews, 21,456 pagans, and 339 Mahomedans. In 1881, 25,460 males and 2,932 females were in custody; in 1880, 18,854 males and 2,521 females; in 1879, 17,606 males and 2,563 females; in 1878, 23,280 males and 2,890 females; in 1877, 16,580 males and 2,539 females; in 1876, 13,534 males and 2,124 females. Dividing the prisoners (1882) into two classes, white and coloured, it appears that there were 75 white and 822 black under, and 5,669 whites, and 28,744 blacks over, 18 years of age; of the whites it is reported that all but 128 could read; of the coloured, only 4,170 were able to do so. 4,969—4,099 males, and 870 females, or 14·07 per cent. against 10·71 per cent. in 1881, 13·707 per cent. in 1880, and 12·96 per cent. in 1879, of the prisoners had been committed before; 2,698 once, 1,147 twice, and 1,124 three times or more. On 805 occasions, compared with 703 in 1881, punishments were inflicted for offences within the prison walls. Cases of sickness numbered 2,182, of which 72 resulted fatally. There were 189 escapes from prison. In gaols in Basutoland and unannexed Transkei and Tembuland (now returned for the first time) 565 coloured, 51 white male, and 3 female black persons were kept in confinement at one time or another in 1882, and of these individuals 68 professed the Christian religion, 549 were pagans, and 2 Mahomedans. In guarding and attending on the prisoners in the Colony, 236 persons are employed, besides these, the constabulary (including the new Cape police force) consists of 1,506 officers and men, an increase of 486 on figures for 1881. Beef is higher in price than in 1881 and previous years; brown bread is dearer and white slightly cheaper than of late; mutton, rice, and salt have not varied in cost. Taking the particulars given for the last seven years, it appears that the average price of beef is 6*d.*, and mutton 6*d.*, and brown bread $3\frac{3}{4}d.$ a lb. The Colonial expenditure in 1881–82 on 'Police and Gaols" amounted to 107,510*l.* for establishments and contingent expenses, and 70,229*l.* for services exclusive of establishments.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

Education.

On education the State expenditure during 1880–81 is returned as having been 82,953*l.*, compared with 88,823*l.* in 1881–82—establishments costing respectively 2,562*l.* and 2,636*l.*; exclusive of ditto, 71,338*l.* and 73,992*l.*; Transkeian territories, 5,281*l.* and 10,311*l.*; pupil teachers' fund, 267*l.* and 253*l.*; Basutoland establishments, 650*l.* and 351*l.*; exclusive of ditto, 1,671*l.* and 1,279*l.* The total payments are 5,870*l.* in excess of those in 1880–81, and 9,175*l.* of those in 1879–80, and 18,741*l.* more than in 1878–79. Public schools are 252 in number; mission ditto, 396; boarding, 61; industrial, training, and day schools (native), 223; Basutoland ditto, 24; normal schools, 4; in all 960 (an increase of 22 on 1880–81, of 47 on 1879–80, and of 117 on 1878–79); having 75,314 children on the books, and 37,316 in average daily attendance. 741 male and 706 female teachers were employed in the schools in 1881–82. There are also 4 colleges and institutions for higher and professional education in receipt of aid under the Education vote, whereat there attend 211 students for the matriculation course, 43 for B.A., and 20 for the survey examination. In the period 1873 to July, 1882, 1,011 certificates have been issued, after examination, to teachers and candidates for educational employment. The 661 schools inspected in 1881–82 had 43,874 names on the roll, and 32,338 children were present on the occasion of the inspector's visit. Deputy inspectors were first appointed in 1872, and since that date 5,234 schools have been seen, in which 251,869 boys and girls were present out of 356,715 on the books. The present educational system is subject to the provisions of Act No. 13 of 1865, and since that year the State expenditure has amounted to 734,612*l.*, and the local outlay to 835,165*l.*; schools and colleges have grown in number from 392 to 964, and scholars on the list from 32,875 to 75,588. Fees in public schools average—Class I., 10*s.* 8*d.* per month; Class II., 7*s.* 4*d.*; Class III., 4*s.*; in mission ditto, 1*s.* 7*d.*

University.

Under Act No. 16 of 1873 was incorporated the University of the Cape of Good Hope, which has since been granted Royal Letters Patent, bearing date August 8th 1877. Undergraduates: candidates to the number of 823 have been examined; of these, 373 passed, and 127 did so with honours. Graduates: candidates presenting themselves for examination were 134 in number; 86 of these passed; 7 as M.A., 7 as LL.B., and 72 as B.A. To *ad eundem* degrees 136 gentlemen have been admitted; 46 certificates of proficiency in law, and 54 of proficiency in land surveying have been granted. At the school examinations in elementary subjects 1,975 persons were present, and 520 passed in the first class, and 817 in the second; 109 persons attended the honours examination which was first instituted in 1880, and 70 of these satisfied the examiners.

Ecclesiastical.

To the congregations of the different religious denominations there belong 344,920 persons, 195,395 being classed as whites and 149,925 as coloured; an increase of 17,408 on 1881, and of 20,384 on 1880. Comparing the returns for 1881 and 1882, it will be noticed that the number of ministers has casually increased from 350 to 414; the receipts from Government, owing to lapse of grants, have fallen off by 680*l.*, while the incomings from the congregation, &c. have risen from 69,398*l.* to 75,131*l.*, but contributions, exclusive of ministers' support, are less by 7,674*l.*; main stations are more numerous by 30, and out-stations remain unchanged in numbers. The average attendance is now 128,505 persons, a great improvement on previous figures, in buildings capable of holding 217,047; communicants now number 101,708, a slight decrease. Every week 3,076 services are held. At 791 evening and Sunday schools 41,732 children and others attend. Births (or baptisms), marriages, and deaths (or funerals), numbered in 1882 respectively 14,978, 3,104, and 4,023; in 1881 the figures were 12,860, 3,110, and 2,948; and in 1880, 12,638, 2,823, and 3,227. Of the total number of adherents, in 1882, the Dutch Church had 41·18 per cent.; Wesleyan, 14·29; the English Church, 14·74; Congregationalists and London Missionary Society, 10·84; Rhenish Mission, 3·81; Moravians, 2·92; Roman Catholics, 2·99; Presbyterians, 3·17; Berlin Mission, 1·72; Dutch Dissenters, 1·12; Evangelical Lutherans, 1·12; German Baptist, ·84: English ditto, ·71; Free Evangelican, ·24; French Reformed ·21; and United Protestant Church ·10. Partial returns of the three Hebrew churches have for the first time been rendered. In Basutoland three religious bodies were at work in 1882. The number of adherents was 11,574 (152 whites); contributions amounted to 1,450*l.*; communicants were 2,802 in number, and weekly services 416. Births, marriages, and deaths in 1882 were as follows: 244, 84, and 28. Every week 200 services are devoted to benefit of the 14,711 (1,574 being white) adherents of the Wesleyan, English, and Moravian churches in Tembuland, where there are 11 main, 83 out-stations, and 2,453 communicants, and the number during last year of baptisms, marriages, and funerals was respectively 682, 61, 16.

Hospitals.

At the beginning of 1882, there were 679 patients in the several Colonial hospitals, and during the year 5,284 new cases were admitted. To attend upon these 5,963 persons, 80 nurses and 52 other servants were employed. Of patients discharged, 2,964 were cured, 592 relieved, 116 not improved,* but as to 727 it was impossible to state what benefit was derived from treatment, no details being obtainable. The number of deaths was 723 in

* If Port Elizabeth Provincial hospital returns, which are defective, are excluded, the following percentages can be obtained, viz.: cured 58·21, relieved 11·62, not relieved 2·28.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

1882; it was 500 in 1881 in 4,705 cases; and 378 in 1880 in 3,861 cases; in 1879, 334 in 3,788 cases; in 1878, 413 in 4,176 cases; and in 1877, 285 in 3,670 cases. Area: Considerable variety is observable in the accommodation for patients afforded by the apartments set apart for their use. At the Graham's Town infirmary, chronic sick ward No. 1 is 64 feet long (64 feet × 14¾ × 13) while at the old Somerset hospital the male chronic ward No. 4 has a length of only 7 feet (7 × 17·0 × 14·8). The greatest breadth is to be found in the chronic sick wards, Provincial hospital, which are 32 × 32·10 × 13·10, and the least in one of the Old hospital seclusion rooms 6·2 × 18·6 × 14. No ward is higher than 25 feet (25 × 22 × 22) and none lower than 9 feet (9 × 14 × 9)—examples of these styles are to be had respectively at the King William's Town and Queen's Town Frontier hospitals. 20 beds are placed in the Kafir ward of the Kimberley Free hospital, but the strong rooms at the Old hospital and elsewhere will only admit one stretcher. The amount of cubic space available for each patient fluctuates between 373 in the strong rooms for lunatics at the last named institution and 4,045 in the pauper wards at the Robben Island infirmary, and the area in square feet of windows and ventilating openings varies from 1 foot 6 inches to 205 feet. Diseases: in the hospitals,* infirmaries, and asylums, 6,336 cases were treated in 1882, of these, 745 resulted fatally. These figures show an increase of 1,107 cases (21·97 per cent.) and 211 deaths (40·34 per cent.) as compared with the 1881 returns for the same institutions. The disease table may be arranged as follows:—

—	Hospitals.				Infirmary and Asylums: Old Somerset Hospital, Robben Island, and Graham's Town Asylum.			
	1882.		1881.		1882.		1881.	
	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.
General diseases* - -	1,677	162	1,229	115	170	19	185	27
Local* - - -	2,205	286	1,631	170	720	75	721	71
Conditions (debility) -	134	9	74	11	56	27	57	28
Poisons - - -	177	11	168	11	10	—	7	—
Injuries - - -	1,029	126	752	47	3	1	6	—
Malingering - -	28	—	36	—	—	—	1	—
Malformation -	—	—	2	—	—	—	2	—
Moribund - - -	28	26	36	36	—	—	—	—
Destitute and other -	15	3	50	6	84	—	82	1

* Per-centages of deaths in General Diseases, Sub-division A. - 13·7 p.c. (in 1882).
" " " " B. - 7·01 "
" " Local Diseases - - - 12·34 "

* Free hospital, East London, and Barkly West Convalescent Home, included for the first time.

The death rate in the hospitals is, therefore, 11·77 per cent., (or, excluding the moribunds, 11·34 per cent.,) and in the infirmaries and asylums only 11·70 per cent.; corresponding figures for 1881 were respectively 9·95, 9·13, and 12·0 per cent., for 1880, 8·49 8·20, and 12·23 per cent., and 1879 7·98, 7·21 and 10·77 per cent. Average rate of mortality in 1882 was 11·76; in 1881, 10·38; in 1880, 9·4; in 1879, 8·63; 1878, 9·647; and 1877, 8·370 per cent.

The two *Lunatic Asylums* at the beginning of 1882 had 294 inmates, and during the year 50 persons were admitted (9 being females). Of the 344 patients, upon whom 52 persons attended, 19 were cured, and 4 relieved; the deaths numbered 22. At Robben Island there are 79 rooms, the gross cubic space thereof being 189,186 feet, and the average amount of cubic space available for each patient, 491 feet. For the Graham's Town Asylum the corresponding figures are respectively 19, 116, 433, and 661.

Revenue and Expenditure.—On referring to the appropriation accounts, 1881–82, it will be observed that the expenditure on the Somerset Hospital was 8,445*l.*; Old ditto, 6,830*l.*; Robben Island, 18,431*l.*; King William's Town, 4,176*l.*; Graham's Town Asylum and Infirmary, 6,293*l.*; Kimberley hospital, 9,419*l.*; other hospitals &c., 19,643*l.* The revenue of the *seven aided institutions for 1882 was 44,604*l.*, (30,945*l.* being receipts from Government), and the expenditure, 42,765*l.*

Touching all *Charitable Institutions* throughout the Colony it may be mentioned that the inmates in January 1882 numbered 1,319; 7,343 were admitted during the year; 6,262 persons were discharged, and 845 died.

District Surgeons treated 5,201 persons in 1882, 141 of whom died; the details on this subject are as follows, viz.:—

		1881.		1882.	
		Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.
General diseases	A.	307	22	419	22
	B.	1,360	46	1,617	32
Local diseases		2,216	59	2,456	59
Conditions		87	21	59	5
Poisons		104	5	92	4
Injuries		441	16	506	18
Malingering		52	0	48	0
Malformation		3	0	2	0
Moribund		2	2	2	1

Cases in 1879 numbered 1,625; in 1880, 2,208; in the former year 112 deaths happened; in the latter, 73.

Belonging to 94 friendly societies there were at the end of 1882, 10,520 members, or 864 more than were connected with

* Including Kimberley hospital, which became an aided one before close of financial year 1881–1882.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

the 83 institutions in existence in the previous year. According to the returns submitted by the different magistrates, 542 indoor, and 567 outdoor, paupers obtained Government assistance in 1882.

A system of registration of deaths is carried out at Kimberley and Du Toit's Pan, and the mortality returns, which include deaths in hospital, supply the following items of information in regard to the year 1882, viz., total number of deaths 1,993, 354 among European adults and 207 among children; 1,260 of native adults and 172 of children, an increase of 890, chiefly made up as follows:—133 male adult whites, 687 male adult black, and 54 coloured children, on the returns for 1881.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Cape Town,
Cape of Good Hope, 16th June 1883.

ST. HELENA.

ST. HELENA.

No. 22.

Governor JANISCH, C.M.G., to the Right Hon. the EARL OF DERBY.

MY LORD, St. Helena, March 19, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to transmit the Blue Book for the year 1882.

2. The returns show a revenue of 11,500*l.* 14*s.* 2*d.*, and an expenditure of 11,212*l.* 7*s.* 3*d.*, in which is included 1,000*l.* for redemption of debentures.

3. The revenue, although sufficient to cover the expenditure, falls short of the amount estimated, and is a decrease on the amount received in 1881, 12,425*l.* 16*s.* 7*d.* The decrease is mainly in the Customs receipts, and arises partly from the abolition of the tonnage fee, which formerly yielded an amount estimated at 1,200*l.* per annum. To replace the revenue derived from tonnage fees, on the peition of the inhabitants, certain alterations were made in the Customs Tariff, but from dullness of trade those alterations have not yielded as much as was expected, and there has also been a diminution in the wharfage receipts.

4. There is a growing tendency to decline in the shipping trade at this port, the true causes of which arise from the great changes in the lines of trade since the opening of the Suez Canal, and the large and increasing extent to which sailing vessels are being steadily replaced by steamers in all of the lines of trade. With these a third cause has been often and much insisted on by the shipping agents here, viz., the effect of the tonnage fee in drivitng vessels from the port. The result which has followed on the abolition of the fee goes far to prove the correctness of the opposite opinion held by many others that the small charge of one penny per ton for support of the hospital and gaol had on

appreciable effect on vessels which really required supplies, and that either its abolition or retention would produce little or no change in the number of calling vessels.

5. Still the abolition of this charge is not to be regretted as it removes a sense of grievance from the minds of those who are connected with the shipping trade at this island, and as it has completely effaced the idea that the decline in the business of the port was in some degree attributable to the Government imposition of an injurious tax on shipping.

6. By careful reductions and economy, the expenditure has been brought down to 11,212*l.* 7*s.* 3*d.* This amount includes the annual payment of 1,000*l.* for redemption of debentures, leaving the nett current expenditure for the service of the year, 10,212*l.* 7*s.* 3*d.*

7. This is a decrease on the expenditure of 1881 of 1,688*l.* 12*s.* 3*d.* The difference will be found partly under the head of pensions, arrears having been paid in 1881 to the Cape Government for advances to pensioners in that Colony, and partly under the head of public works and buildings owing to a special expenditure in 1881 for repairs of damages caused by a flood in James Town culvert, and injuries to the wharf from heavy rollers. The only special expenditure in 1882 was a sum of 200*l.* 4*s.* 4*d.* for repairs of Plantation House roof, incurred under special authority.

8. The debt on debentures has been further diminished by the payment of the annual instalment of 1,000*l.*, leaving now 8,7 outstanding.

9. *Establishments.*—The only change under this head has been the appointment of Dr. Spencer Watson to the office of Colonial Surgeon in place of Dr. Bertram Janisch, whose death occurred on the 8th July 1882.

10. *Pensions.*—This list has been reduced by the death of James Sefton, a pensioner at 57*l.* 4*s.* 6*d.* per annum, and increased by the grant of pensions to Alfred McPike, a hospital servant at 19*l.* 3*s.* 3*d.*, and to Richard Price of the Customs department at 26*l.* 6*s.* 6*d.* The total of the list is now 1,805*l.* 16*s.* 8*d.* per annum.

11.—*Foreign Consuls.*—Mr. James McKnight has succeeded Mr. Crouch as Consul for the United States, and Mr. Charles Carrol appointed Vice-Consul.

12. *Shipping.*—497 vessels have called at the port during 1882, classed as follows: 16 vessels of war, 45 steamers, 403 merchant ships, 33 whalers; or, according to nationality, as follows: Americans, 52; Austrian, 7; Belgian, 2; Brazilian, 1; British, 285; Danish, 3; Dutch, 19; French, 25; German, 20; Italian, 23; Norwegian, 20; Russian, 8; Spanish, 2, and Swedish 30.

The total tonnage (exclusive of ships of war) 409,400.

The number of vessels in 1881 was 525.

13. The imports amount to 52,281*l.* against 53,169*l.* in 1881, and the exports to 1,543*l.* against 2,675*l.* in 1881. This does not include transhipments of oil at the port from the whale fishery,

ST. HELENA.

amounting to 30,930*l.* against 27,680*l.* in 1881, and also a transhipment of ivory and feathers from Walfisch Bay, amounting to 11,000*l.*

14. *Hospitals and Asylums.*—The admissions to the hospital amount to 72, being the smallest number hitherto recorded. The decrease is mainly in consequence of the alteration in the mode of admitting seamen. So long as the tonnage fee was paid by the shipping, seamen were admitted to hospital free of all charge, and no doubt undue advantage was taken of this, and seamen often obtained admission for trivial or pretended diseases in order to escape from their ships. The temptation to this abuse has disappeared, as they are now chargeable for the expense of their diet at the rate of 3*s.* a day.

15. *The Lunatic Asylum.*—There are now only two patients in the Asylum. During the year one death occurred of an aged patient, 72 years old, from softening of the brain. At the close of the year the new buildings for a Poor House and Lunatic Asylum in James Town were completed, and the lunatics have since been removed from the former distant asylum in Sandy Bay, bringing them under constant medical inspection and easy supervision by the authorities. This alteration has been often attempted during the last 30 years, but insuperable objections have been raised from time to time on the score of expense, and the difficulty of obtaining a more suitable position at a reasonable cost. The new buildings are commodious and well situated for their purpose, and the purchase and construction of the buildings has been promoted by a loan of 800*l.* from the Colonial Treasury, repayable by easy instalments.

16. *Criminal Statistics.*—The number of convictions has for some years been steadily decreasing. Only 48 prisoners in all have been committed to gaol in 1882; the total number of convictions being 103, of which 99 were police cases, and four in the Supreme Court for indictable offences. None of the cases have been of a serious character and the imprisonment awarded has in no instance exceeded three months.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HUDN. R. JANISCH.

The Right Hon.
The Earl of Derby,
&c. &c

LAGOS.

No. 23.

Governor Sir S. ROWE, K.C.M.G., to the Right Hon. the EARL OF DERBY.

Government House, Lagos,
MY LORD, June 16, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to forward to your Lordship the Blue Book of the settlement of Lagos for the year 1882, and a report on it by Mr. Frederick Evans, C.M.G., who is acting as Colonial Secretary. I am much indebted to Mr. Evans for his patience and perseverance in its preparation. Without his help I should not have been able to forward this document to your Lordship at the present time.

2. It is satisfactory that the expenditure for the year has not exceeded the receipts.

	£
Receipts being - - - -	44,636
Expenditure - - - -	44,039

3. According to the report (page 14, paragraphs 19, 20), the total number of inhabitants in Lagos and surrounding districts is 75,270; of these 37,665 are males, and 37,605 females, 16,055 children. The number seems to me to be out of proportion.

4. Persons, however, with whom I have conversed on this matter say that from their own general knowledge they believe it to be accurate.

I have, &c.
(Signed) SAMUEL ROWE,
Governor.

The Right Hon.
The Earl of Derby,
&c. &c.

SIR, Lagos, June 11, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to transmit the following report on the Blue Book of Lagos for the year 1882.

Revenue and Expenditure.

1. The revenue for 1882 was 44,636*l.* 4*s.* 9*d.*
2. Of this amount 38,188*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* was furnished by customs.
3. The revenue was 2,214*l.* 12*s.* 1*d.* in excess of that for 1881, which amounted to 42,421*l.* 12*s.* 8*d.*

LAGOS.

4. The excess is due to increased receipts under the head of Customs.

5. The expenditure for 1882 was 44,039*l.* 2*s.* 11*d.* or 597*l.* 1*s.* 10*d.* less than the revenue.

6. The following tables show the revenue and expenditure under the several heads of receipts and disbursements for the years 1881 and 1882.

Revenue.

Head of Receipt.	1881.	1882.	Increase.	Decrease.	Cause of Increase or Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
Customs - -	35,946 18 6	38,188 13 4	2,241 14 10	—	Principally under cotton goods.
Sale of Government property.	83 15 4	121 17 3	38 1 11	—	
Land sales - -	13 10 0	27 0 0	13 10 0	—	
Land revenue -	12 0 0	3 0 0	—	9 0 0	
Postage - -	312 7 10	347 18 0	35 10 2	—	Increase in the share of ocean postage, owing to more correspondence.
Rent ex land -	208 11 4	207 11 3	—	1 0 1	Casual.
Licenses - -	1,707 10 0	1,392 0 0	—	315 10 0	Liquor, auction, and boat and canoe licenses fell off, principally liquor, 277*l.* 10*s.*
Fees of office -	413 3 6	439 16 9	26 13 3	—	Greater demand for Customs' officers at private wharves and bonded stores.
Fines for and fees	790 14 7	662 14 8	—	127 19 11	Decrease in amount of probate fees received.
Miscellaneous -	2,157 3 9	2,937 1 11	779 18 2	—	Principally under wharfage.
Reimbursement -	763 7 10	271 10 10	—	491 17 0	Principally under repayment of advances.
Government vessels.	—	—	—	—	
Special receipts -	12 10 0	11 10 0	—	1 0 0	
Surcharges recovered.	—	25 10 9	25 10 9	—	Error in account.
Total -	42,421 12 8	44,636 4 9	3,160 19 1	946 7 0	

Expenditure.

Head of Expenditure.	1881.	1882.	Increase.	Decrease.	Cause of Increase or Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
Establishments -	26,140 9 5	29,123 12 0	2,983 2 7	—	Arrears of 1881, salaries under various departments.
Civil Service, exclusive of establishments.	10,510 11 4	6,855 5 0	—	3,655 6 4	Balance of unexpended votes, principally under public works (2,149*l.* 15*s.* 5*d.*), and Government vessels. (600*l.* 19*s.* 8*d.*).
Judicial - -	43 8 6	107 4 6	63 16 0	—	More expenses incurred for Crown witnesses and inquests.
Pensions -	1,362 10 0	1,344 9 0	—	18 1 0	Casual.
Charitable allowances.	30 5 6	3 5 0	—	27 0 6	Less application for relief.
Ecclesiastical -	186 5 3	29 7 7	—	156 17 8	Undrawn salary of the bishop.
Education -	638 13 7	634 10 0	—	4 3 7	Casual.
Rent - -	55 16 8	64 6 8	8 10 0	—	Arrears of 1881.
Transport -	1,222 3 3	762 9 4	—	459 13 11	Less travelling allowances and passages of officers, &c.
Interest - -	159 8 5	—	—	159 8 5	No expenditure under this head.

Heads of Receipt.	1881.	1882.	Increase.	Decrease.	Cause of Increase or Decrease.
Miscellaneous -	2,487 0 3	1,544 17 10	—	942 2 5	There being no large payments made, such as purchase of Banner Brothers' property 1881.
Aborigines -	1,310 6 10	1,387 3 11	76 17 1	—	Increase under maintenance of Chiefs and messengers.
Drawbacks -	1,314 14 1	2,182 12 1	867 17 3	—	More duty-paid goods exported to Porto Novo and beyond the seas.
Liabilities -	—	—	—	—	Nil.
Total -	45,461 13 10	44,039 2 11	4,000 2 11	5,422 13 10	

Debt.

7. There is no public debt.

Credit.

8. There was to the credit of the Settlement on the 31st December 1882 a balance of 26,313*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.*, composed as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
In the local Treasury - - -	1,187	5	9
In the hands of the Crown Agents -	4,402	13	1
Remittances in transit to Crown Agents	975	0	0
Invested in 3 per cent. Consols -	20,000	0	0
Advances due to Lagos - -	189	13	2
	26,754	12	0
Less deposits for which Lagos is liable	441	5	4
	26,313	6	8

Public Works.

9. The expenditure in 1882 on this service (exclusive of fixed salaries) was 2,503*l.* as against 4,653*l.* in 1881.

10. In addition to the current repairs to public buildings, roads, streets, and bridges, &c., the principal works undertaken were the completion of Isale Gangan bridge, and the addition of 64 yards to the Marina embankment, on which the sums of 391*l.* 17*s.* 8*d.* and 484*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* were expended respectively.

Legislation.

11. During the year 13 Ordinances were passed by the Governor and the Legislative Council of the Gold Coast Colony, of which the following are the principal ones particularly affecting Lagos, viz.:—

No. 4.—An Ordinance for the promotion and assistance of Education in the Gold Coast Colony.

LAGOS.

No. 9.—An Ordinance to amend an Ordinance intituled "An "Ordinance for the promotion and assistance of Education in "the Gold Coast Colony."

No. 12.—An Ordinance to amend an Ordinance intituled "Towns Police and Public Health Ordinance 1878."

This Ordinance provides for the prohibition of the sale elsewhere than in the Public Market of any article for the sale of which a public market is provided. A public meat market (Ereko Market) is provided.

No. 13.—An Ordinance to amend an Ordinance intituled "The "Lagos Pilotage and Harbour Ordinance 1878."

This Ordinance provides for special permission to certain vessels having gunpowder on board to anchor in the harbour.

Government.

12. The administration of Lagos was conducted by the Lieutenant-Governor of the Gold Coast Colony (Mr. W. Brandford Griffith, C.M.G.) up to the 4th April inclusive, when he was relieved by Mr. Frank Simpson, Assistant Colonial Secretary, and proceeded to England on leave of absence. On the 13th October Mr. Simpson was relieved by Captain C. A. Moloney, C.M.G., the Colonial Secretary of the Colony, who continued to administer the Government to the end of the year.

Civil Establishments.

13. The duties of the Assistant Colonial Secretary during the year were performed by the following officers, viz :—

Mr. H. M. B. Griffith, confidential clerk, from 1st January to 3rd April; Captain Rouse Douglas Douglas, Assistant Inspector, Gold Coast Colony, from 4th April to 21st November.

Mr. C. D. Turton, Assistant Colonial Secretary from 22nd November to the end of the year.

14. In the Public Works Department Mr. J. J. Talman's engagement as engineer and surveyor expired (17th April 1882) and was not renewed.

15. In the judicial department Mr. C. D. Turton was appointed to be an Assistant Colonial Secretary of the Gold Coast Colony, and the duties of the offices of District Commissioner and Crown Prosecutor at Lagos hitherto conducted by him were performed as follows :—

District commissioner, by Assistant Inspector Forbes from 1st to 8th January ; by Mr. C. G. Blackburn, Chief Clerk of Customs, from 9th January to 31st December.

Crown Prosecutor, by Mr. Nash H. Williams (a private legal practitioner), from 1st January to 22nd November 1882, when the office was abolished.

There were no other changes of importance during the year.

Pensions.

16. An addition of 40*l.* was made to the pension list, Bishop Henry Cheetham (the Bishop of Sierra Leone) having been granted a pension of 200*l.* a year, of which Lagos annually pays a proportion equal to 40*l.*

17. The pension was paid from the 14th December 1881.

Foreign Consuls.

18. Monsieur J. A. Colonna de Leca in March 1882, was appointed by Monsieur Victor Bareste (Vice-Consul for France for the West Coast of Africa) to be Consular Agent for France at Lagos. He was recognized in this capacity in 1883.

Population.

19. The last Census was taken in 1881, when the population of Lagos, its vicinity, and the districts, was reported to be 75,270, of whom 37,665 were males and 37,605 females.

20. There were 59,215 adults, of whom 29,599 were men, and 29,616 women, and 16,055 children, of whom 8,066 were males and 7,989 females.

21. There were resident in Lagos during the year 117 Europeans (109 males and 8 females).

22. The number of births, deaths, and marriages *registered* during the year was 227, 63, and 683 respectively.

23. Among the European population four deaths were recorded, but no births or marriages.

Ecclesiastical.

24. The figures shown in the following return are taken from information furnished by the heads of the several religious bodies:—

Denomination.	No. of Clergy.	No. of Places of Worship.	Average Attendance.	Remarks.
Church of England -	11	16	3,286	Attendance at two chapels not given.
Wesleyan - -	9	7	570	Ditto; one church in course of erection.
Roman Catholic -	5	2	895	
Baptist - -	1	3	220	

LAGOS.

25. The returns refer to Lagos and the districts only. There are many places of worship in the neighbourhood of Lagos connected with the several missions.

Education.

26. An Ordinance for the promotion and assistance of education in the Colony was passed by the legislature during the year.

27. It provides for the payment out of the funds of the Colony of grants to schools, which fulfil certain conditions in regard to the teachers, number of scholars, passes under examination, &c. &c.

28. The rules under which the grants are awarded are framed by the General Board of Education, for the constitution of which, together with local boards, the Ordinance makes provision.

29. The Ordinance did not, however, come into operation in 1882.

30. The following statistics are taken from the returns rendered by the several educational missions :—

Denomination.	No. of Schools.	No. of Scholars.			Remarks.
		Male.	Female.	Total.	
Church of England -	20	799	562	1,361	The total number of scholars in all schools in 1881 was 2,132.
Wesleyan - -	8	340	250	590	
Roman Catholic -	2	179	126	305	
Baptist - -	2	67	38	105	
Total - -	32	1,385	976	2,361	

31. In 1871 the number of attendants in all schools was returned by the missions as 943.

32. Taking the present number of children in Lagos and the districts as 16,055, it would appear that the missionaries now succeed in bringing about one in every seven under their system of education.

33. The Church of England, Wesleyan, and Roman Catholic missions each received in 1882 a government grant of 200*l.* towards the maintenance of their schools.

Imports.

34. The gross value of the imports amounted to 428,883*l.*, and as compared with those of 1881 (333,659*l.*) show an increase of 95,224*l.*

35. A sum of 37,485*l.*, the value of specie imported, is included in the returns for 1882 as compared with 12,274*l.* imported in 1881.

36. Deducting the specie from these returns the value of the imports in 1882 would be 391,398*l.* as against 321,385*l.* in 1881, or an increase of 70,013*l.* in 1882.

37. This increase is principally obtained on cotton goods.

38. The value of cotton goods imported was 188,069*l.*, or 86,035*l.* more than that stated for 1881, which year, however, gave a return considerably lower than any of the preceding 13 years.

39. These goods, with cowries, Geneva (51,809*l.*), guns, gunpowder, haberdashery, hardware, rum (30,295*l.*), salt (10,848*l.*), shooks (12,325*l.*), and tobacco (26,905*l.*), form the principal articles of trade with the interior, and their total value amounted to 339,784*l.* of the gross imports. The remaining 51,614*l.* (excluding specie) is made up of articles chiefly imported for local consumption.

40. I attach a table showing the quantities and value of the principal articles imported in the years 1881 and 1882, from which it will be seen that there was a general increase in the imports during the latter year, except in the case of rum, on which there was a falling off of 66,390 gallons, or 23,636*l.*

Imports.

STATEMENT showing Quantities and Value of principal Articles of Import in 1881 and 1882.

Articles.		1881.	1882.	1882.	
				Increase.	Decrease.
Cotton goods - -	£	102,034	188,069	86,035	—
Cowries - -	Cwts.	12,082	9,465	—	—
	£	6,361	6,139	—	222
Geneva - -	Galls.	438,228	502,607	—	—
	£	47,565	51,809	4,244	—
Guns - -	No.	7,758	1,613	—	—
	£	3,009	649	—	2,360
Gunpowder -	Barrels	1,761	1,726	—	—
	£	2,835	3,329	494	—
Haberdashery - -	£	6,888	5,000	—	1,888
Hardware - -	£	5,081	4,416	—	665
Rum - - -	Galls.	685,738	419,348	—	—
	£	53,931	30,295	—	23,636
Salt - - -	Cwts.	73,086	105,356	—	—
	£	8,308	10,848	2,540	—
Shooks - -	Bdls.	9,007	12,407	—	—
	£	7,454	12,325	4,871	—
Tobacco -	Lbs.	1,151,687	1,188,835	—	—
	£	24,441	26,905	2,464	—
Other articles - -	£	53,478	51,614	—	1,864
		321,385	391,398	100,648	30,635
Specie - -	£	12,274	37,485	25,211	—
Total - -		333,659	428,883	125,859	30,635

Net increase 1882, 95,224*l.*

LAGOS.

Exports.

41. The gross value of the exports amounted to 581,064*l.*, and, as compared with those of 1881 (460,007*l.*), show an increase of 121,057*l.*

42. Divided into "produce, &c. of the Colony" and "British, foreign, &c. produce," the exports show 502,369*l.* under the former head and 78,695*l.* under the latter head.

43. "Produce of the Colony" may be said to consist almost entirely of beniseed, cotton (raw), country cloths, ivory, kola nuts, palm kernels and palm oil, the value of these articles alone amounted to 501,166*l.*, and of this sum 480,705*l.* was represented by palm kernels and palm oil.

44. Of the total value of the "produce of the Colony," 264,769*l.* went to Great Britain, 2,041*l.* to British Colonies, 235,559*l.* to foreign countries. Kola nuts and country cloths went principally (3,560*l.* out of 3,775*l.*) to the Brazils, to which country, I am informed, they are exported for the use of the descendants of African slaves.

45. There was a very considerable increase in the quantities of palm kernels and palm oil exported in 1882, as will be observed from the following comparative table:—

STATEMENT showing Quantities and value of principal Articles of Export in 1881 and 1882.

Articles.		1881.	1882.	1882.	
				Increase.	Decrease.
Produce of the Colony.					
Beniseed	Tons	10	193	—	—
	£	88	1,789	1,701	—
Cotton (Raw)	Pkgs.	1,093	3,003	—	—
	£	3,646	8,103	4,457	—
Country cloths	Pkgs.	85	307	—	—
	£	2,136	5,949	3,813	—
Ivory	Lbs.	2,748	2,678	—	—
	£	769	844	75	—
Kola nuts	Pkgs.	254	319	—	—
	£	1,750	3,775	2,025	—
Palm kernels	Tons	20,801	28,592	—	—
	£	221,634	261,184	39,550	—
Palm oil	Galls.	1,807,296	2,637,326	—	—
	£	147,423	219,521	72,098	—
Other articles	£	1,604	1,204	—	400
		379,050	502,369	123,719	400
British and foreign produce	£	80,957	78,695	—	2,262
Total	£	460,007	581,064	123,719	2,662

Net increase 1882, 121,057*l.*

46. "British, foreign, &c. produce" consists chiefly of the following European articles imported for trading purposes with, or for transit to, the countries adjacent to Lagos, and is represented by a total value of 78,695*l.*

47. The principal articles are cotton goods (29,482*l.*), cowries, gin (14,183*l.*), gunpowder, rum (7,111*l.*), salt, and tobacco (10,706*l.*)

48. Porto Novo absorbed no less than 65,510*l.* out of the total value of exports shown under this head.

Shipping.

49. The following tables show the number of vessels entered and cleared in 1881 and 1882:—

Sailing Vessels.

—	1881.			1882.		
	No. of Vessels.	No. of Tons.	No. of Crews.	No. of Vessels.	No. of Tons.	No. of Crews.
Entered - -	69	19,395	662	79	20,691	711
Cleared - -	64	17,882	611	73	19,117	659

Steam Vessels.

—	1881.			1882.		
	No. of Vessels.	No. of Tons.	No. of Crews.	No. of Vessels.	No. of Tons.	No. of Crews.
Entered - -	251	147,816	8,812	262	156,299	9,193
Cleared - -	248	147,001	8,756	267	157,381	9,334

Gaols and Prisoners.

50. The total number of persons committed in 1882 was 245 (228 men, 15 women, and 2 juveniles) as against 226 in 1881.

51. Of these 56 had been previously convicted, 30 once, 6 twice, and 20 twice or more.

52. Only one death occurred during the year.

53. The total cost of the gaol for 1882 was 1,911*l.* 14*s.* 1*d.*

Criminal Statistics.

54. The following comparative table shows the number of offences, apprehensions, convictions, and acquittals during the last four years :—

—	1879.	1880.	1881.	1882.
The number of offences reported to the police - - - - -	—	—	—	—
The number of persons apprehended by the police or summoned before the magistrates - - - - -	995	709	414	804
The number of summary convictions:				
1. For offences against the person -	163	147	191	240
2. For prædial larceny - -	21	24	19	10
3. For offences against property other than prædial larceny - -	286	106	42	30
4. For other offences - - -	222	85	12	27
The number of convictions in the superior courts:				
1. For offences against the person -	11	19	11	7
2. For prædial larceny - -	6	5	3	4
3. For offences against property other than prædial larceny - -	59	51	14	25
4. For other offences - - -	22	12	9	11
The number of persons acquitted :				
1. In the inferior courts - -	175	222	83	145
2. In the superior courts - -	30	30	38	29

Hospital.

55. There were 356 persons treated in the hospital as in-patients, of whom 315 were males and 41 females.

56. In addition to these there were 6,103 persons treated in the hospital as out-patients.

57. Among the former there were 35 deaths during the year.

58. The principal diseases for which patients were admitted were fevers and cutaneous, digestive, respiratory, rheumatic and genito-urinary diseases.

59. There were also 58 surgical cases.

60. Vaccination was performed on 15,080 persons and was successful in 14,279 cases.

Sanitation.

61. A report on the sanitary condition and requirements of Lagos for the year 1882 has been made by Dr. Macarthy, the Colonial surgeon and health officer, and has already been transmitted to your Excellency.

I have, &c.

(Signed) FRED. EVANS,

Acting Colonial Secretary,

Gold Coast Colony.

His Excellency,
Governor Sir Samuel Rowe, K.C.M.G.,
&c. &c. &c.

LAGOS.

No. 24.

Governor Sir S. ROWE, K.C.M.G., to the Right Hon. the EARL OF DERBY.

Government House, Lagos,
June 16, 1883.

MY LORD,

IN accordance with the directions of the Right Honourable the Secretary of State, I have the honour to forward to your lordship a report on the sanitary condition of the town of Lagos by Doctor Macarthy and a copy of the Despatch which Mr. Moloney, then administering the Government, wrote when he forwarded this report in April last.

2. With respect to some of the sanitary measures recommended by Dr. Macarthy, I have no doubt that they would be of advantage. I regret that I do not see at present that the revenue of the settlement is likely to permit such works as those he proposes.

3. I hope shortly to be able to address your lordship farther on this subject.

4. With respect to the construction of fresh buildings for small-pox huts, I have asked the Surveyor-General to prepare an estimate for putting these up in brick at once; but so far as regards the saturation of the old bamboo huts with the germs of disease, this matter might have been at once disposed of by burning the old huts and erecting fresh ones. The cost would have been trifling.

5. With regard to the planting of trees in the streets and open spaces of the town it seems to me that this has already been carried out almost as far as it is possible to go, as there is very little space left for farther planting.

6. I quite agree, from all I have heard, and from Dr. Macarthy's report, with the Acting Administrator, Mr. Moloney, in the opinion that the settlement is fortunate in having the services of Dr. Macarthy as Medical Officer.

I have, &c.
(Signed) SAMUEL ROWE,
Governor.

The Right Hon.
The Earl of Derby,
&c. &c.

DR. MACARTHY to the Assistant Colonial Secretary.

Lagos, February 16, 1883.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to lay before his Excellency the Administrator the following remarks on the sanitary condition and requirements of Lagos.

To give a complete and statistical report on the subject would require the collation of a number of facts, which, under the existing

LAGOS.

social and domestic condition of the great mass of the people, it would be impossible to accomplish.

Amongst the facts alluded to, reliable information on the following subjects would have to be furnished.

1. Annual number of births.
2. Annual number of deaths.
3. Special diseases causing deaths.
4. Probable causes of such diseases.
5. Special diseases prevalent amongst the natives during each month of the year.

I am aware that the registrar of births and deaths supplies a monthly tabular statement of occurrences 1, 2; but—and this I have on a former occasion commented on officially—whilst acknowledging his industry in search of correct information on this subject, I am unable to give his reports that credence which they would demand, were he in a position to arrive at true data. But under existing circumstances I should exact an impossibility were I to call for that accuracy, which it is not in his, nor, for the matter of that, in any one else's, power to command.

The evil, however, which is likely to accrue from his reports is this: They may be accepted some day by a statist ignorant of the deadly nature of the climate as a proof of its extraordinary salubrity. And indeed were a stranger to be guided in his estimate of this climate by a study of the registrar's figures, he would naturally conclude that it was more sinned against than sinning. For these reports go to prove that in a population of 40,000 inhabitants, living in a country whose climate is, even to the native, so inimical to life, the rate of mortality from all causes is only 17·32 per 1,000.

This is the rate calculated from the registrar's reports for the year 1882 and which is actually *below* the annual death rate of Portsmouth and Brighton, the healthiest towns in England,

From this we must accept one of two facts, either that the registrar's reports are altogether inaccurate and therefore misleading, or that Lagos is as healthy a town as Portsmouth or Brighton. For myself I prefer to incline to the former belief. Yet, as above said, hardly much blame can be attached to that officer; for in his search after correct information, he is met by difficulties which it is not even in his power to control.

Any one who knows how prejudiced the heathen, and therefore the greater, portion of our population is against official inquiry into their domestic concerns, and with what characteristic jealousy they guard against "the stranger's" intrusion into their traditional, and where sickness or death is concerned, sacred usages, will concur with me that to arrive at true data as regards the vital statistics of this town, is a task not to be accomplished at any rate in our day and generation.

Now as regards items 3, 4, and 5. Here also little or no reliable information is or can be supplied. In England civil practitioners are compelled by law to send in to the registrar of births and deaths a certificate of the death of each patient occurring

amongst their *clientelle*. In Lagos there is only one certified civil practitioner; but I doubt very much if his list of native patients exceeds a fortieth of the whole population; the great mass being treated by native doctors. LAGOS.

His information, therefore, except what he could glean from hearsay, would be of small value to a medical officer of health. Hence it is that the annual report of this official must of necessity be always wanting in that information, which, above all others, would in a sanitary point of view, be most instructive to the Government.

Towards the middle and end of last year dysentery and diarrhœa prevailed, but no deaths occurred amongst the Europeans; what mortality these diseases caused in the native population it would be impossible to ascertain.

Small pox being endemic in this country occasional cases appear now and then, and are either dealt with at the patients' houses, or if krooboys or paupers, received into the Contagious Diseases Hospital.

Apropos of this terrible disease, I omitted to state in my report on the vaccination that the accommodation at the Contagious Diseases Hospital is not alone quite inadequate; but the style of hut built for the reception and treatment of these patients is wrong in principle, and most dangerous to the people sent there under observation as "suspected case."

There is only one hut for the accommodation of both males and females, with merely a bamboo partition in the centre to separate the sexes. This hut will not hold in all more than twenty patients. The walls are chiefly composed of bamboo, which soon rots in this country, with brick pillars about 6 feet apart; the roof is thatch! Anyone acquainted with the property of septic matter to adhere to, and for years to retain its vitality in, such materials will at once admit that bamboo and thatch are particularly unfitted to enter into the construction of a building devoted to the treatment of zymotic disease. Long after patients have died or been discharged from such a building the organic emanations from their bodies will adhere to and *live* in the mouldy thatch and bamboo. Many people, as above said, suffering from what is suspected to be incipient symptoms of small pox, are as a precautionary measure, sent to this hospital to be kept under observation. Being in a lowered state of health, they are in a fit condition for the inception of the diseases, whose germs pervade the very atmosphere, not to say the structure of the building, one of whose purposes is supposed to be that of a *maison de santé*. When the three huts, which once composed the Contagious Diseases Hospital were blown down by a tornado in 1881, I then stated officially that it would be most desirable to have them rebuilt of more substantial materials. In spite of my representations, however, only one was reconstructed, and of the same materials as formerly; this one is now in use. One amongst the other evils of having the sides made of bamboo is that patients in delirium from the disease can, and have been known to, break through this frail structure, and escape into the town carrying infection where they go.

LAGOS.

In view of the possibility of a wide and severe epidemic occuring amongst us such as that of 1878, I would strongly recommend that the two huts, which have not been rebuilt, together with that now in use, be reconstructed wholly of brick, and roofed with galvanized iron. Then we should be able by means of carbolised chloride of lime and other disinfectants, to keep this hospital comparatively free from the germs of infection which must certainly now inhabit it.

I ask for the three huts to be rebuilt, because we are now by no means prepared for the emergency which a widespread epidemic would create; in a word, we could not accommodate a tenth of the patients which at such a time would seek admission.

The thoroughfares of the town are as clean as it is possible to keep them. Would that I could say as much of the "compounds" of many of the houses. Frequently during my daily drives through the town, I enter a compound whose precincts give evidence of the state of filth I find within. Not being a proficient in the Yoruba dialect, I endeavour to express my detestation of their filthy den in "the language of the emotions," but with the usual effect on the sable tenant—fatuous stare indicative of utter indifference to my admonition.

Domiciliary visits is the special duty of the inspector of nuisances, but in justice to the man holding that office, I must admit that, together with the efficient performance of his other duties, I do not see how he can find time to pay such visits as frequently as would be required to impress on the minds of his countrymen, anything like a due regard for the law on household cleanliness. To keep the compounds of this large town under constant supervision would alone be work enough for one man, and a work which, if efficiently performed, would be of immense sanitary benefit to the community.

There are four other measures of great sanitary importance, which, if carried out, would prove a blessing to the inhabitants: First, the continuation of the embankment to that end of the marina which terminates at what is known as "The Lagos Commission Company's factory." The second is the efficient drainage of the swamp through which runs the road leading to the Contagious Diseases Hospital. Thirdly, the judicious planting of umbrageous trees and the encouragement of the growth of close-cut grass throughout the town. Fourth, the completion, so far as is practicable of the network of open V drains throughout the town.

With regard to the continuation of the embankment of the marina, it is plain that that important sanitary work has been stopped just at the point at which it ought to have been begun, just in fact where the foreshore of the marina is most filthy, and where the roadway itself is not more than two feet above high water mark. When the tide recedes it exposes all along the shore a foul black silt, from which, both day and night, emanate a sickening effluvia, and which has been the cause of constant and just complaint by the

unlucky dwellers on that part of the marina. At the time the embankment was begun, the abolition of this nuisance was fully and joyfully anticipated, but now that that useful sanitary work has been abandoned the old, and I must admit reasonable complaints are again to be heard, coupled now, however, with expressions of despair of the work ever being resumed. I must add, that this undertaking if completed would most certainly tend to rectify what no one will or can deny to be a source of a good deal of the sickness prevalent in Lagos. I have no doubt that were I to make an analysis of the shiny mud, &c., which generates the foul smells experienced on this part of the marina, I should find it composed of an enormous per-centage of organic matter, and that chiefly animal.

As to the swamp above mentioned, being, as it is, almost in our midst, it will be conceded by all who know how deadly such pestilent tracts are, that a stern necessity exists for its being efficiently drained. I have no doubt whatever in my mind that the miasmatic emanations generated in this swamp contribute largely to the periodic disorders which afflict the community. To rebut this statement would be to ignore what is known of the etiology, and, if I may use the term, the topography of diseases due to paludal influences. Were this swamp effectively drained it would render the island considerably healthier; for as Dr. Parkes says: "It is astonishing what good can be effected by the drainage "even of a small area, quite insufficient to affect the general atmo-"sphere of the place; this shows that it is the local dampness of "the place and effluvia, which are most hurtful." This has reference to small swamps, but the swamp in question is sufficiently local, and of sufficient magnitude, to affect the whole atmosphere of an island thrice the size of Lagos.

As regards the judicious planting of umbrageous trees, and the encouragement of the growth of grass in the open spaces (which I regret to say are too few) and thoroughfares of the town, I need only enumerate a few of the known benefits a tropical town derives from both forms of vegetation, to prove their value.

Trees by their obstruction of the sun's rays lessen evaporation from the surface of the ground; whilst evaporation from their foliage is so great as to produce a perceptible lowering effect of the general temperature of a place.

Trees impede the passage of water through the soil, hence in Lagos, had we a belt of the outspreading "Umbrella" trees, planted at proper intervals along the banks of the populated portion of the island, and especially on the lower part of the marina, the outflow of our water-sheet would be considerably obstructed, and at the end of the dry season the wells would not be so dry as they usually are at that time of the year. In advocating the planting of shade-giving trees,—I say the judicious planting of them, for instance, I would have a row of these trees planted at regular distances along the centre of every broad street, as well as a double row in the few, too few, open spaces of the town. Indiscriminate planting is of course to be condemned.

LAGOS.

Herbage, like trees, cools the ground by obstructing the sun's rays, and aiding evaporation, as Dr. Parkes observes :—

" Nothing is more desirable than to cover the hot sandy plains of " the tropics with close-cut grass. It is well known to those who " have studied the question that animal refuse passes into nitrites, " nitrates, ammonia, and fatty hydro carbonas rather rapidly. " These representatives of putrefaction are eagerly absorbed by " herbage and other vegetation. A means is therefore pointed " out which may keep the soil clear of dangerous impregnations," and considering the foul condition of the soil in the town of Lagos, a means which would exercise most beneficial results, were we to adopt it, even partially, in our thoroughfares.

When speaking of the beneficial effects of vegetation on the climate, I must not be understood to include brushwood in the term. That should always be rigidly kept down, as it favours stagnation of air, harbours reptiles, and, when allowed to grow in the vicinity of a town, serves as a common latrine. An instance of this we have in Lagos, but it is now by order of the Administrator, being, in the true sense of the term, eradicated.

When brushwood is removed, however, the work should always be done in the heat of the day, not in early morning or evening, the reason for this is obvious.

As regards the drains above referred to, it must be conceded that, situated as this town is on a flat sand-bank, there are none better suited to every requirement than the V drains, initiated by and first laid down by order of our Administrator Captain Moloney, C.M.G., to whose untiring energy and shrewd discernment of our sanitary requirements the community is largely indebted for the establishment of the only measures of importance we now enjoy.

There are, however, many streets still left unprovided with these drains. Hence the houses thereon are often flooded during the rains by the uncontrolled current, which rushes through them. Were drains laid down in these streets the water would be guided in its course to the Lagoon, carrying with it much of the surface filth, which is now washed into the soil and adjacent wells.

In a word, a more intimate and general network of these drains throughout the town is eminently needed.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. D. MACARTHY,
Colonial Surgeon and
Medical Officer of Health.

The Assistant Colonial
Secretary,
&c. &c. &c.
Lagos.

COLONIAL SURGEON MACARTHY to the ASSISTANT COLONIAL SECRETARY.

SIR, Lagos, February 19, 1883.

IN my report on the sanitary condition and requirement of Lagos, I dealt fully with the necessity there existed for the re-erection with suitable materials of the three huts, which once constituted the Contagious Disease Hospital. I also alluded therein not only to the possibility, but actual occurrence of a patient in delirium breaking through the bamboo walls of the huts in which he was lying.

The day before I sent in my report a repetition of this occurrence took place. A poor krooboy in delirium from the disease broke through the decayed and yielding bamboos forming the sides of the hut, and escaped into the adjacent bush, when after a protracted search, he was found next day lying under a bush dying.

In any case this man would have died, for he suffered from the most fatal form of the disease. Still the possibility of so sad an occurrence ought not to be allowed to exist.

I have therefore the honour to recommend, subject to the approval of his Excellency the Administrator, that, as I have urged in my sanitary report, the three huts which at one time constituted the Contagious Disease Hospital, be rebuilt, the sides to be of brick, the roof of galvanized iron. In the reconstruction of these huts the principles of ventilation ought to be strictly carried out.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. D. MACARTHY,
Colonial Surgeon.

The Assistant Colonial
Secretary,
&c. &c. &c.
Lagos.

Government House, Lagos,
SIR, March 31, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to transmit the accompanying report for 1882, by Dr. Macarthy, Colonial Surgeon and Health Officer, "On the sanitary condition and requirements of Lagos."

2. Dr. Macarthy advances that reliable comparative statistics of sufficient comprehensiveness are not forthcoming on which to base deductions and promote therefrom benefit, and refers to the work of the Registrar, whose figures as regards births, deaths, and marriages are compiled under the Registration Ordinance, No. 21 of 1863.

LAGOS.

3. Dysentery and diarrhœa prevailed for a portion of the year, but no deaths therefrom occurred amongst the European population. Of course mortality from these causes the Health Officer does not find himself in a position to afford any particulars.*

4. As to the comments of the Colonial Surgeon on the Contagious Diseases Hospital, I would refer to my Despatch as per margin in which, among other points, I stated, "the hut known as the Contagious Diseases Hospital can only suffice for a class of patients who have no better accommodation at their homes."

5. While not deeming it necessary to attempt to forecast the future in the matter of the outbreak and proportion of any epidemic and to provide accordingly accommodation, yet your Excellency may rely on my meeting the wants of the community as they arise and, so far as my position entitles me to, I intend to supply in part accommodation as recommended by the Colonial Surgeon, the cost of which I will meet from votes in estimates 1883.

6. The Health Officer advocates, and in his advocacy my experience leads me to shortly support his views, (1) the continuance of the embankment; (2) the efficient drainage of the swamp near to the site of the old Debtor's prison; (3) the planting of trees along the streets; and (4) the continuance of the construction of the open V drains.

7. It must not be inferred that these are wants to which attention is now attracted for the first time. They have been recognized in the past and have been and (are) being met as circumstances and authority allow.

8. Dr. Macarthy's report is interesting, and only speaks for itself for the interest he continues to take in the duties of his office. A copy of it will accompany the report on the Blue Book 1882, in accordance with the wish of the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

I have, &c.

(Signed) ALFRED MOLONEY,

Acting Administrator.

His Excellency,

Governor Sir Samuel Rowe, K.C.M.G.,

&c. &c. &c.

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* *Sic* in original.

MALTA.

No. 25.

Governor Sir A. BORTON, G.C.M.G., K.C.B., to the Right Hon. the EARL OF DERBY.

MY LORD, Palace, Valletta, April 20, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to forward the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1882, to which I append, for your Lordship's information, a few remarks by Sir Victor Houlton, the Chief Secretary to Government.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. BORTON,
Governor.

The Right Hon.
The Earl of Derby,
&c. &c.

Chief Secretary's Office,
April 17, 1883.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward to your Excellency the annual Blue Book for the year 1882, with the accompanying report.

Legislation.

The following six Ordinances were passed by the Council of Government, and promulgated during the year 1882.

1. "To amend the law respecting the duty on licenses for retailing wine, beer, or spirituous liquors."
2. "To amend Ordinance No. IV. of 1873, intituled 'To grant "'certain rights to parties who undertake certain "'works.'"
3. "To amend the law relative to prisoners that may be found on board merchant ships."
4. "To amend Article 162 of the Criminal Laws."
5. "For applying a sum not exceeding 24,919*l.* 16*s.* 7½*d.* to the "service of the year 1881."
6. "For applying a sum not exceeding 127,865*l.* 18*s.* 4*d.* to the "service of the year 1883."

Civil Establishments.

There were no important changes in the service during the year 1882, except the appointment of Mr. Giovanni Dalmas, as Commissary of the "Monte di Pietà," instead of Mr. James Trapain, superannuated.

Revenue.

1. The total revenue collected in 1882 amounted to 205,883*l.* 13*s.* 2¼*d.*, as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
General receipts from various sources of revenue, including the products of land sales (2,506*l.* 18*s.* 5½*d.*), and sales of Government property (262*l.* 5*s.*) -	193,413	5	11
Interest on money lent on pledges by the "Monte di Pietà" - - -	2,008	18	1¼
Dividends on Stock in Consols - -	10,461	9	2
	205,883	13	2¼

	£	s.	d.
2. The average revenue for the five years preceding 1882, including land sales, sale of Government property, and interest, was - - -	184,400	12	10¼

3. The differences in the receipts of 1882 as compared with those of 1881 are as follows:—

	Increase.			Decrease.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Customs - - - - -	11,695	13	5	—		
Quarantine dues - - - -	—			158	1	6
Land sales - - - - -	2,178	15	5¾	—		
Land revenue - - - -	—			557	15	2
Rents (exclusive of lands) - - -	333	6	9¾	—		
Licenses - - - - -	25	5	0	—		
Postage - - - - -	—			18	5	4
Fines, forfeitures, and fees of courts - -	150	2	7¼	—		
Fees of office - - - - -	—			74	13	4
Sale of Government property - -	—			153	9	4½
Reimbursement in aid of expenses - -	4,957	19	5¼	—		
Miscellaneous - - - -	489	5	9	—		
Interest - - - - -	1,053	11	8¾	—		
Special Receipts - - - -	4	3	5½	—		

Increase in 1882 as compared with 1881, 19,925*l.* 18*s.* 11¾*d.*

Expenditure.

4. The payments during the year comprised the following gross totals:—

	£	s.	d.
Disbursements for fixed and provisional salaries, allowances, and office contingencies - - - -	81,256	3	4
Other services authorised, exclusive of establishments - - - -	124,477	17	1¾
Total expenditure - -	205,734	0	5¾

MALTA.

5. The gross expenditure in 1882 was 205,734*l.* 0*s.* 5¾*d.*, against 188,039*l.* 16*s.* 5*d.* in 1881, the increase being chiefly attributable to the large expenditure incurred for the relief of the refugees from Egypt.

Imports.

	£		£	
Value of cargoes imported and actually landed at this port -	732,717	against	691,325	in 1881.
And value of cargoes which merely touched at this port and were re-exported in the same bottoms -	25,882,087	„	18,405,946	„
	26,614,804	„	19,097,271	„
viz.:—				
From the United Kingdom - - -	129,856	„	97,662	„
From the British Colonies - -	5,052,599	„	3,638,661	„
From H.M. Ships in port - - -	2,540	„	738	„
From Foreign Countries	21,429,809	„	15,360,210	„
	26,614,804		19,097,271	„

Exports.

	£		£	
Value of exports from portions of cargoes which were actually landed at this port -	108,874	against	85,010	in 1881.
And value of exports of whole cargoes which merely touched at this port and proceeded in the same bottoms -	25,824,415	„	17,734,532	„
	25,933,289	„	17,819,542	„
viz.:—				
To the United Kingdom	9,566,649	against	5,838,121	„
To British Colonies -	4,737,803	„	2,553,254	„
To H.M. Ships -	9,416	„	5,106	„
To Foreign Countries -	11,619,421	„	9,423,061	
	25,933,289		17,819,542	

MALTA.

Shipping.

The shipping movement in the port during the last two years is shown in the following table :—

Year.	Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1881 - -	3,885	3,673,753	1,731	180,656
1882 - -	4,620	4,635,680	1,785	160,271
Increase - -	735	961,927	54	—
Decrease - -	—	—	—	20,395

Savings Banks.

The amount of deposits in the savings banks on 31st December 1882 was :—

	£	s.	d.		
In Malta -	281,899	1	4	by 4,070	depositors
„ Gozo -	15,006	13	5	„ 300	„
	296,905	14	9	4,370	

Education.

The number of Government schools in these Islands is 94, attended by 9,940 scholars, 4,524 males and 5,416 females, showing an increase of 803 pupils, 173 males and 630 females, over last year.

The increase in the expenditure on education, as compared with that incurred in 1881, was 3,184*l.* 17*s.* 9*d.*

Population.

The civil population of these Islands on the 31st December 1882 was reported to be as follows :—

Males - -	74,754
Females - -	77,475
Total - -	152,229

The number of births and deaths from 1st January to 31st December, of every class, was as follows:—

	Births.		Deaths.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
Natives - - - - -	2,812	2,537	1,918	1,810
British residents - - - -	94	102	72	43
Foreigners - - - - -	8	13	14	4
	2,914	2,652	2,004	1,857

Criminal Statistics.

The following is a statement of offences punishable under the local laws, showing the number of accusations and of persons brought before the courts by the police during the year 1882, and the manner in which the same were disposed of:—

Offences.	No. of Cases.	No. of Persons.	Acquitted.	Condemned.
CRIMINAL LAWS.				
Crimes against public tranquillity - -	23	25	3	22
„ affecting public credit - -	6	7	4	3
„ „ the good order of families	12	13	1	12
„ against the person - - -	274	350	60	289
„ „ property - - -	295	396	107	289
CONTRAVENTIONS.				
Affecting public order - - -	1,703	3,145	380	2,765
Against the person - - - -	455	614	100	514
„ property - - -	130	204	45	159
OTHER CONTRAVENTIONS.				
Under special Ordinances - - -	414	681	21	660
POLICE LAWS.				
Contraventions - - - -	2,076	3,476	211	3,265
Total - -	5,388	8,911	932	7,978

viz:—

	No.
Maltese - - -	8,715
English - - - -	178
Foreign - - - -	18
	8,911

MALTA.

The number of persons committed in 1882 was as follows:—

Men - - - - -	1,905
Women - - - -	270
Boys - - - -	587
Girls - - - -	7
	2,769

General Remarks.

The Customs receipts during the financial year 1882 amounted to 127,719*l.* 11*s.* 9*d.* against 116,023*l.* 18*s.* 4*d.* in 1881, showing an increase of receipts over those of the preceding year of 11,695*l.* 13*s.* 5*d.*, and even the "Annus Mirabilis" of 1878 was surpassed by 4,256*l.* 5*s.* 2*d.* when compared with the extraordinary Customs receipts of 1882. This remarkable prosperity was mainly due to the Egyptian war, Malta at all times benefiting when the surrounding nationalities are at variance, and always to a still greater degree when the calamity occurs in a direction which takes in the Island, in the wake of the transit of the necessary war materials and food supplies. The large increases which took place in the Customs receipts occurred on those items of imports, which are clearly indicative of the increasing prosperity of the community, and which show that the population was enabled to enjoy a greater amount of business than usual, such, for instance, as under imports of wheat, bullocks, wines, spirits, beer, &c.

Steam Vessels.

The shipping movement of the port showed an increase of 683 British and 52 foreign steam vessels over 1881. The number of British steamers alone entering the harbours amounting to 3,795 against 825 foreign.

Sailing Vessels.

Under this head there was an increase of 54 vessels, and a decrease of tons 20,395.

Harbour Labour.

The labour of the harbour was constant, and during the greater portion of the year quite inadequate to meet the demand. In fact, the traffic of the two harbours, but more especially the grand harbour, is steadily increasing; the quays and roads bordering the water have become too narrow, and the thoroughfares are most difficult to drive through and an improvement long considered and often submitted to Council, but hitherto unrealised, that of doubling the present marina gate and lowering the ascent,

has now become "an imperious necessity." An accurate estimate may be obtained of the increasing coal trade of Malta carried on upon the wharves of her two harbours when I state that 557,439 tons were imported and re-exported during 1882. This at an average of full 2*s.* a ton equal to 55,743*l.* amongst the coal-heavers will give an idea of the wealth this branch of the harbour labour alone left in the Island in the shape of wages. The local Admiralty have much benefited the Island resources and strengthened them by introducing a hitherto comparatively new system of paying off at this port ships of war instead of sending them back to the United Kingdom for this purpose; in 1882 two ironclads and two corvettes were thus paid off, causing the local Admiralty expenditure in the Island during the year 1882 to amount to 120,030*l.* in wages, officers' salaries, &c., a total not very far below the entire revenue of the Island, and this, too, in addition to that which the sailors of the fleet spend on shore; and it is already announced that the Imperial Government intend to construct without delay a new graving dock in the French creek of a capacity equal to meet the requirements of the largest of Her Majesty's ships of war, in addition to the construction of naval barracks on the Corradino Hill. There is every prospect, therefore, for the next several years to come that the demand for local labour will be excessive, and that the prosperity of not only the working classes but of the higher classes also of the community will have been secured.

What will very strikingly illustrate the extraordinary increase both of labour and of traffic is the value of the imports and exports as shown in the following extract from the Customs statistics, which implies a most remarkable harbour movement.

	£
Value of imports in 1882 - -	26,614,804
„ „ 1873 - -	8,705,985
Difference - -	17,908,819
Value of exports in 1882 - -	25,933,289
„ „ 1873 - -	8,010,187
Difference - -	17,923,102

The value has evidently tripled in the course of 10 years, and this circumstance refers to articles subject to duty only.

A very remarkable feature in the Island history occurred during this year in the exodus from Egypt, the reception, housing, and feeding in Malta of some 8,000 refugees, chiefly Maltese or born abroad of Maltese parents. These persons with their families were ordered to quit their homes in Egypt at the commencement of the Egyptian war, and were landed in Malta at the height of the hot season, remaining here through July, August, and September. Providentially, and through the unflagging exertions of the Local

MALTA.

Government, no epidemic took place, despite this altogether unforeseen addition to the already overcrowded population of these Islands, and all were safely re-transported to Egypt at the close of the war.

The health of the Island has been beyond the average good throughout the year.

I have, &c.
(Signed) VICTOR HOULTON,
Chief Secretary to Government.

To His Excellency
Sir Arthur Borton, G.C.M.G., K.C.B.,
Governor of Malta.
&c. &c. &c.

GIBRALTAR.

GIBRALTAR.

No. 26.

Governor SIR J. M. ADYE, G.C.B., to the Right Hon. the EARL OF DERBY.

MY LORD, Gibraltar, April 20, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to transmit the Blue Book of 1882, with a few remarks on it by the Colonial Secretary.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN ADYE,
Lieutenant-General and Governor.

The Right Hon.
The Earl of Derby,
&c. &c.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Gibraltar,
April 17, 1883.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to submit a report on the annual Blue Book. The remarks are somewhat brief owing to the short experience I have had of Gibraltar.

Taxes, Duties, &c.

The taxes, duties, &c. remain the same as in previous years, though a revised tariff has been transmitted home for the approval of the Secretary of State.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

Revenue.

The Colonial Revenue for the year amounted to P. 1,236,136 (49,014*l.*), including proceeds of sale of bills on the Crown Agents, being an increase of P. 116,711 (4,827*l.*) over that of the previous year. The most noticeable increases are the port dues, which have increased by P. 19,089 (756*l.*), and the ground rents, which exceeded those of the previous year by P. 12,187 (483*l.*).

The reasons for the former are the steady increase of steamers visiting the port for coaling and other purposes.

The increment to ground rents is attributable to the large number of renewals of leases, and the increased ground rent fixed in each case. The large number of renewals is to be accounted for by the fact that many properties have been disposed of in 1882, though the leases had fallen in, in previous years, but had not before been dealt with.

Expenditure.

The local expenditure amounted to P. 1,246,760 (49,435*l.*) against P. 1,137,227 (45,092*l.*) for 1881, exceeding the Revenue by P. 10,623 (421*l.*). This excess of expenditure is attributable to the police force being augmented and to the outlay incurred on new buildings, such as the Civil Hospital and Lunatic Asylum.

Surplus Fund.

The invested surplus fund at the end of the year was about P. 282,464 (11,200*l.*).

Public Debt.

There is no public debt of the Colony.

Public Works.

The civil hospital advanced one important stage, the male ward containing 56 beds, having been completed and opened by Lord Napier with a public ceremony.

The lunatic asylum was so far advanced as to be roofed over.

The erection of a time ball to give Greenwich time was accomplished.

Useful cattle sheds were also erected on the North Front.

Legislation.

The legislation of the Colony during 1882 calls for no special remark.

GIBRALTAR.

Shipping.

Comparing the Return of 1882 with that of the previous year shows an increase of 301 steamers, representing 494,980 tons, and a decrease of 150 sailing vessels, or 41,038 tons, thus leaving in the total number and tonnage of both descriptions of vessels collectively an increase of 151 vessels, representing 453,942 tons.

I have, &c.

(Signed) GIFFORD,
Colonial Secretary.

His Excellency
Sir John Miller Adye, G.C.B.,
Governor, &c.

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